

Tomorrow



• Shcharansky on how to talk to the Soviets

• The High Court decision on the security service pardons

• A-G Yosef Harish says what he thinks of this decision

• What the Syrians are up to in Lebanon



Hans Friedman and her son Ya'acov begin their vigil yesterday outside the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem. The placard reads: "My sister Ida Nudel - a citizen of the State of Israel since 1972, certificate No. 642." (Story on Page 2) (Dan Landau)

Truce in S. Lebanon, but one UN soldier hit

SIDON. - A ceasefire between French peacekeeping troops and Muslim militiamen took hold in South Lebanon yesterday after another soldier was wounded. UN sources said battles with rocket launchers and automatic rifles subsided at dawn after Amal militia chiefs urged an end to the fighting near the city port of Tyre. Timor Goksel, spokesman for Unifil, said that despite the truce, overnight firing around besieged French positions wounded one soldier. This brought to 18 the number of French UN troops injured at villages

in the south. Three Shi'ite militiamen also have been reported killed. In other developments, a bomb scare panicked the French consulate in Christian East Beirut, and the Soviet airlines Aeroflot resumed regular flights to the hijack-plagued airport of the Lebanese capital. The staff and visa-seeking visitors were hurriedly evacuated from the four-story French consulate in Mar Takla district around midday after officials received a threat of a bomb in the building. The threat turned out to be a hoax. (Reuters, AP) (Picture - Page 3)

Pretoria holds talks to increase trade ties with Israel

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters). - South Africa, faced with growing threats of economic sanctions, said yesterday it had discussed increasing trade with Israel during high-level talks with Israeli officials. A statement announcing the end of talks was the first issued by Pretoria on the encounter. The week-long visit ending on Saturday coincides with reports that Pretoria is looking for alternative supply routes in case Western powers impose anti-apartheid economic sanctions. A terse statement by the Finance Department said the four visitors, (Continued on Page 9)

Peres: Egypt will send back envoy soon Taba package approved

By BENNY MORRIS
Post Diplomatic Correspondent
The inner cabinet yesterday approved the Taba arbitration normalization of relations package with Egypt after Prime Minister Peres quashed a half-hearted Likud attempt to postpone a decision on the matter.

After 7½ hours of discussion, all five Alignment ministers and three of the Likud's five, including Foreign Minister Shamir, voted for the package, with only Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon and Minister without Portfolio Moshe Arens dissenting. Announcing the decision at an impromptu press conference after the vote, Peres said that the arbitration agreement, or *compromis*, would probably be signed in about a fortnight, that the Egyptian ambassador would return immediately thereafter to Tel Aviv, and that a summit meeting would probably be held between him and President Mubarak at about the same time.

Before talking to the reporters, Peres, flanked by Minister without Portfolio Ezer Weizman, Egyptian chargé d'affaires Mohammed Bassouny and the director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, Avraham Tamir, called Mubarak to inform him of the cabinet decision. Both leaders said they hoped that they would meet "soon."

At the cabinet meeting, Shamir said the draft *compromis* was "not ideal" but was "the best attainable in

the circumstances." The foreign minister stressed that Israel must try to use the Taba arbitration as a lever to "pin down" the implementation of the various normalization of relations understandings and agreements, especially during the coming two-three weeks before the *compromis* is signed.

Dissenting, Sharon and Arens argued that the *compromis* as phrased gave Israel little chance to win the arbitration. Sharon proposed that Israel seek to change the "question" that the arbitrators will be asked to answer concerning sovereignty over the disputed areas - the core of the *compromis*.

Arens said the formulation of the *compromis* was "not good for Israel" and left Israel with "little chance of continuing to govern Taba." Arens implied in his criticism of what was agreed between Israeli and Egyptian delegations over the past year of talks that it did not conform with the inner cabinet's resolution of January 31. He called for a timetable for implementing the normalization agreements and for a finalized agreement on rights in and access to Taba for the loser in the arbitration.

Before the inner cabinet convened yesterday morning, the five Likud members met in an attempt to reach an agreed position. But Shamir was unable to mobilize his colleagues behind his position of reluctant acceptance of the *compromis*-normalization package.

At the start of the cabinet meet-

ing, Tamir and Foreign Ministry Director-General David Kimche presented and explained the *compromis* and the normalization agreements concluded with the Egyptians.

Finance Minister Moshe Nissim then proposed that the ministers postpone for a few days a decision on the package until all had had more time to study the material.

Peres, pointing out that the ministers had received the material on Monday, denied the need for any postponement, and demanded that the ministers complete the discussion and vote the same day.

Housing Minister David Levy spoke in favour of the package, as did the Alignment ministers and Shamir.

Following the meeting, Levy told reporters that "we are all interested in peace, especially the Likud ministers, and it is nonsense bordering on libel to suggest that we were interested in a delay."

Following yesterday's decision, Peres read out the following statement describing the inner cabinet decision:

"We ratify the report we received from the directors-general delegation in all that relates to the bilateral relations between Israel and Egypt. There were detailed discussions of these (topics) with the Egyptian president and members of his government. In these discussions emerged a great deal of goodwill, and we take note of the statements (assurances) that the directors-

general received from the government of Egypt.

"The cabinet decided to approve the *compromis* as it was formulated by the two delegations. The signing of the *compromis* will no doubt take place within a fortnight or so after (discussion) ends on two subjects that are still being dealt with. One is the determination of the arbitration panel, (three arbitrators are still missing, (and the other is) taking photographs of the area." (See adjoining story).

Peres told Mubarak in their telephone conversation that he will write to him informing him in detail of the decision and of the cabinet decision.

Tamir is expected to fly to Cairo over the weekend to begin planning the summit, which will probably take place in September, according to sources in Jerusalem.

Peres thanked the U.S. for its efforts in helping Israel and Egypt conclude the negotiations. He noted that several major normalization steps had already taken place, including visits to Israel recently by the Egyptian ministers for tourism and energy.

Peres told the reporters yesterday that American efforts to find the remains of the lost Israeli submarine Dakar have begun. The U.S. Defence Department, in a statement yesterday in Washington, said that the U.S. "will spearhead" the search, which is a joint Israeli-Egyptian endeavour.

Defence budget cut by NIS 100m.

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter
The Defence Ministry budget will be cut by NIS 100 million, instead of NIS 155m., the Treasury announced yesterday, after a compromise was reached between Prime Minister Peres, Defence Minister Rabin and Finance Minister Nissim. Senior government sources, however, said yesterday's decision, which amounts to a 2.5 per cent reduction, was only a "symbolic step" designed to open the way for

cuts in other ministries. The sources said Peres had stressed during the meeting that if the defence budget was left intact, no other ministry would agree to axe its budget by 3.9 per cent, as the Treasury has demanded.

Moreover, officials indicated that the Treasury is studying a request for additional funds totalling NIS 92m. by the Defence Ministry to compensate it for the falling purchasing power of the dollars it receives to (Continued on Page 9)

Surveyors to start work on marking border areas

Post Diplomatic Correspondent
In a fortnight's time, Israeli, Egyptian and American surveyors will begin marking and photographing the 15 disputed border-areas, including Taba, that are soon to go to international arbitration. The resulting map will be appended as the annex to the question in the *compromis*, the document that sets out the terms of reference of the arbitration. Details of the implementation and timetable for the surveying were settled yesterday in meetings in Herzliya between Israeli, Egyptian

and American experts. Preparation of the annex will apparently take about two weeks. No progress had been registered as of yesterday evening in the second major outstanding arbitration issue, the selection of the three international arbitrators, because the Israeli legal experts involved in the process were at the inner cabinet meeting during the day in Jerusalem. They were expected to meet with their Egyptian counterparts late last night in Herzliya to discuss the selection. The Egyptians are scheduled to fly back to Cairo today.

SA offers elections to choose black leaders

DURBAN (Reuters). - South Africa's white leadership yesterday made an historic offer to organize elections among the black majority in order to find leaders willing to negotiate with the government. Cabinet minister Chris Heunis, speaking at the ruling National Party (NP) congress in Durban, said the election would be held to choose black representatives for a proposed advisory body, the National Council. But because President P.W. Botha has made it clear that majority rule is not on the negotiating table so far no prominent blacks have agreed to cooperate with the plan for a National Council and radicals would

almost certainly campaign for a boycott of any election. The nation-wide elections are the first offered to South African blacks in 300 years of white rule. Blacks now make up 74 per cent of the country's 33 million population. Elections were held for the minority coloured (mixed race) and Indian groups in 1984, but few voted and the poll was marred by violent clashes between police and anti-apartheid demonstrators urging a boycott. Heunis said any elections would exclude 19 tribal homelands set up by Pretoria to remove blacks from white cities and farming areas. At least a third of blacks live in the homelands.

A two-hour speech by President Botha set the tone at the 1,600-delegate congress. It was welcomed by Afrikaner hard-liners, but was criticized in the liberal English press. The Johannesburg Star said it contained no evidence of a real plan for South Africa. The largest anti-apartheid group in South Africa, the United Democratic Front, launched a scathing attack on the president's speech, referring to "this mad dog government." In London, the British government was "disappointed" that South African President Botha did not announce any bold new reforms to the apartheid system in his speech, the Foreign Office said.

And the U.S. State Department yesterday withdrew President Reagan's endorsement of a South African call for a meeting between it and Western nations. "It appears that what [Botha] was suggesting was a meeting to focus on regional issues, rather than apartheid," State Department spokesman Charles Redman said. He displayed no enthusiasm for the idea of a meeting on regional issues. Similarly, the West German government reacted with scepticism to Botha's offer of international talks on the southern African situation. Yesterday, speaker after speaker at the congress denounced the foreign sanctions campaign aimed at forcing Pretoria to abandon all race segregation.



Thousands of East German "civil troops" march through the streets of East Berlin yesterday in a ceremony marking the 25th anniversary of the Berlin Wall. See stories on Pages 2 and 10. (Reuters telephoto)

Big 2 arms talks begin 'soon' in Washington

WASHINGTON (AP). - Senior American and Soviet arms negotiators who held two days of talks in Moscow this week will meet again soon, probably in Washington, it was announced yesterday. White House spokesman Larry Speakes said the Moscow discussions were "serious, substantive and businesslike," and characterized them as "a good exchange." He declined to say whether the meeting had produced any progress on narrowing the differences on arms issues. "Don't want to characterize," he said. "Be afraid."

The next round of talks will involve basically the same top-level teams of negotiators on each side, Speakes said. The U.S. team in Moscow was led by veteran negotiator Paul Nitze, President Reagan's chief arms control adviser. The Soviet delegation was headed by Viktor Karpov, who is the Kremlin's chief negotiator in Geneva and head of a new Disarmament Department in the Soviet Foreign Ministry. Speakes said a date for the next meeting would be fixed through diplomatic channels within the next few days. The two sides held 11 hours of talks over two days in Moscow on strategic and space weapons.

Top officers reshuffled

Criticism over IDF appointments

Post Defence Staff
The announcement yesterday of several new senior IDF appointments set in motion a reshuffle in the highest echelons of the armed services for the second time in less than six months. Aluf (Maj.-Gen.) Uri Saguy will take over the Ground Forces Command (GFC) from Aluf Amir Drori. Drori is slated to be appointed De-

puty Chief of General Staff in October. The current Deputy CGS, Aluf Dan Shomron, is one of the leading contenders for the post of CGS and is said to have the support of Defence Minister Rabin. Drori is also considered a contender, however, and is to enjoy the support of CGS Rav-Aluf Moshe Levy, who is due to end his four-year stint next spring.

There was some criticism yesterday of Levy, including that of former OC Manpower Aluf Moshe Nativ, for his frequent changes in top military management. Some critics claimed that the decision to reshuffle the upper echelons of the IDF was taken "for political reasons," with Levy apparently wanting to streng-

(Continued on Page 2, Col.2)

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The weather at major Swissair destinations

	13.8.86	MIN.	C	F	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	9	18	64	66	Cloudy	
BRUSSELS	11	22	72	77	Cloudy	
BUCAREST	15	25	77	79	Bale	
CHICAGO	18	28	82	79	Cloudy	
COPENHAGEN	14	21	70	78	Clear	
FRANKFURT	15	25	77	79	Cloudy	
GENEVA	15	25	77	79	Cloudy	
Helsinki	14	21	70	78	Clear	
HONG KONG	27	31	88	88	Cloudy	
JORDANESBURG	19	29	84	84	Clear	
LONDON	14	21	70	78	Clear	
MADRID	17	25	77	79	Cloudy	
MONTREAL	11	22	72	77	Cloudy	
NEW YORK	18	28	82	79	Cloudy	
OSLO	14	21	70	78	Cloudy	
PARIS	17	25	77	79	Cloudy	
RUDESKJERIK	17	25	77	79	Cloudy	
SAO PAULO	17	25	77	79	Cloudy	
STOCKHOLM	11	22	72	77	Cloudy	
TOKYO	18	28	82	79	Cloudy	
TORONTO	14	21	70	78	Cloudy	
VIENNA	17	25	77	79	Cloudy	
ZURICH	14	21	70	78	Clear	

*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

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THE WEATHER

	Yesterday's Humidity	Yesterday's Min-Max	Today's Max
Jerusalem	24	14-32	33
Golan	24	14-32	33
Nahariya	24	14-32	33
Salad	24	14-32	33
Haifa Port	24	14-32	33
Tiberias	24	14-32	33
Nazareth	24	14-32	33
Afula	24	14-32	33
Shomron	24	14-32	33
Tel Aviv	24	14-32	33
B-G Airport	24	14-32	33
Jericho	24	14-32	33
Gaza	24	14-32	33
Beersheba	24	14-32	33
Eilat	24	14-32	33

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Owing to the Tisha Be'Av fast, the Tel Aviv-Haifa Rotary Club will not meet today.

Ball out of Syrian court

Jerusalem Post Staff
WASHINGTON. — A Pentagon plan to send the U.S. Army basketball team to Damascus for a series of games against the Syrian national team has been scuttled by administration officials. The officials argued that Syria has had a hand in international terrorist activity, and the planned tour, at Syria's invitation, was thus inappropriate.

Earlier, the administration had seen the Syrian invitation as a Middle East version of the ping pong diplomacy in the 1970s that marked the renewal of contacts between China and the U.S.

Iraq, had earlier invited the U.S. team, but that visit fell through for lack of funding. The Baghdad hosts said that while they were prepared to pay the U.S. team's local expenses, they could not afford to fly the squad to and from Iraq.

Israeli wins Swiss TV prize

LOCARNO (AP). — An Israeli made-for-television movie about the Six Day War yesterday won first prize at the Locarno International Film Festival. It was the first Israeli film to be so honoured at the 39-year-old competition.

The film, "Forward, People," was directed by Rafi Bukacze, one of 14 young persons competing in the television category.

The festival features only works by filmmakers who have made more than four films.

A statement by festival organizers said Bukacze had not been present to receive his award because he could not afford the trip to Switzerland.

Car-bomb dismantled in the security zone

Jerusalem Post Reporter
METULLA. — South Lebanon Army troops yesterday dismantled a car-bomb close to the village of Shab'a inside the security zone. The village was put under curfew and SLA forces detained several residents for questioning.

Shab'a is on the east side of the security zone. The area has been the scene of a number of sabotage attempts. It has also acted as a springboard for terrorist incursions into Israel which have been foiled by the SLA or the IDF.

U.S. Bar Association won't cut Soviet tie

By WALTER RUBY
NEW YORK. — The American Bar Association voted yesterday against breaking an agreement reached between its leadership and the Association of Soviet Lawyers (ASL), a group with close ties to the Anti-Zionist Committee of the Soviet Public.

However, the ABA's 441-member House of Delegates passed a resolution stating that the declaration of cooperation between the ABA and ASL should include "a commitment to a dialogue on human-rights practices and laws within the Soviet Union and United States."

The ABA leadership, led by its outgoing president, William Falgraf, signed the agreement with the ASL last year. It called for exchanges between the lawyers groups in the two countries and for joint seminars.

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

Tehiya MKs plan Tisha Be'Av 'tour'

Temple Mount braced for a visit

By MENACHEM SHALEV
For The Jerusalem Post
Tehiya Party Knesset members are to conduct a tour of the Temple Mount area this afternoon. MK Geula Cohen told *The Jerusalem Post* last night that the tour is aimed at "protesting our lack of sovereignty over the area" and to investigate the "destruction wrought by the so-called 'renovations' being carried out by the Wakf" (Muslim trust).

Members of the "Temple Mount Faithful" are also expected to make their traditional attempt to pray on the Mount at 8:30 a.m. today.

The police have prohibited the group from entering the Temple Mount compound, fearing that their

presence might incite a riot among Moslems.

The Chief Rabbis of Jerusalem last night distributed pamphlets throughout the city reiterating their prohibition on prayers on the Mount.

The four-day Moslem feast of Id al-Adha begins on Friday. No Moslem prayers are scheduled to take place at the time of the Tehiya tour.

Sources close to the Wakf told *The Post* last night that it has cancelled a holiday for all employees planned for tomorrow and "is gathering people with clubs and stones," in case the "Temple Mount Faithful" succeeded in gaining access to the Mount.

The "Faithful" are to gather at the Moghrabi Gate overlooking the Western Wall.

Nitzav Rahamim Comfort, head of the Southern District Police Command, told *The Post* last night that he "would not let groups which might endanger the peace enter the Temple Mount, especially on such a sensitive day as Tisha Be'Av and on the eve of a Moslem feast."

Comfort said that because of the large groups expected, police reinforcements would be positioned throughout the Old City. Asked about the Tehiya tour, Comfort said, "Members of the Knesset are not private citizens and they are permitted to go where others aren't."

IDF unit's ardour failed, not its nerve

Post Defence Reporter
"The whole incident has blown up out of all proportion," said Deputy Chief of General Staff Aluf (Maj.-Gen.) Dan Shomron yesterday, referring to media reports that an IDF unit had recently refused a mission because of poor conditions.

"No mission was abandoned," Shomron told reporters after submitting the results of an inquiry he had conducted into the incident to the CGS, Rav-Aluf Moshe Levy. What had occurred, he said, was a deviation from the IDF norm of carrying out a task despite difficulties. The captain responsible had been relieved of his command, he said.

The cause of the problem, Shomron said, had been a failure of communication. A unit had volunteered to serve in order to relieve the workload of another unit. The small unit, commanded by the captain, had arrived at the spot at the end of June, as arranged, and had found that because of a "technical fault" they were not expected, Shomron said.

The home unit then began organizing to hand over the mission to the volunteers. But the captain found that his volunteer fervour had diminished and he found fault with various arrangements offered by the officers on the spot, Shomron said. Finally, the senior infantry officer told the captain that if he felt the morale of his men had been impaired, he could return them to base. This the captain did, after reporting to his superiors.

Shomron stressed that the mission had not been abandoned, since the men had not yet taken it over and the former unit had remained. But, he said, the captain had erred in not sticking to the task despite the difficulties. The officer responsible for the failure of communication had also been disciplined.

The deputy CGS said the unit would return to serve in the same job, under a different officer. He said that the IDF's chief education officer had been charged with distributing material to soldiers on the importance of carrying out objectives.

More Katyushas fired — no one hurt

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter
NAHARIYA. — Fragments of Katyusha rockets were found in northern Galilee and the South Lebanon security zone yesterday, the third attack in the area in the past four days, army sources said.

The rockets were of the 107mm.

variety.

Army sources said no one was injured and no property was damaged in any of the attacks.

Nevertheless, residents of front-line settlements complained about the attacks to Prime Minister Peres when he visited the area on Tuesday.

Peres reminded the settlers of the casualties incurred by the army when it was occupying Lebanon.

He also noted that the head of the northern command had informed him that there had been 30 attempted terrorist infiltrations in the north since May, and all but one had been foiled by the army.

IAF 'can operate within Syrian missile range'

Post Defence Reporter
Monday's air strike at terrorist bases in eastern Lebanon proved that the Israeli Air Force can perform in Syrian missile-protected areas. Chief of General Staff Rav-Aluf Moshe Levy told reporters.

The strike was part of the continuous IDF effort to hit terrorists so as to upset their plans to strike at Israel, said the CGS.

The targets on Monday belonged to the Abu Musa Fatah "rebels." This organization was named on Tuesday by Tel Aviv University expert on terrorism, Ariel Merari, as building up a "worrisome" potential for carrying out spectacular acts of terror against Israel.

The IAF found out on Monday, on its first attempt, that it could carry out its mission within the range of

the Syrian missiles, said Levy. The missiles were deployed near the Lebanese border last November.

SOLIDARITY. — Polish authorities this week released leading opposition activist Adam Michnik from prison as an act of clemency but are pursuing charges against other supporters of the banned Solidarity trade union.

Tisha Be'Av marked

Worshippers, tourists and curious onlookers flocked to the Western Wall last night to mark the fast of Tisha Be'Av, which commemorates calamities that have befallen the Jewish people throughout history.

Fasting began at 7:28 p.m. last night and will end at 7:52 p.m. tonight.

Banks and the stock exchange will be closed for the day, and most government departments and private offices will be closed for all or part of the day. Tisha Be'Av is an optional day off for employees. All places of entertainment will be closed.

Tisha Be'Av recalls the destruction of the First and Second Temples. The first Temple was destroyed in 586 BCE by the Babylonian monarch Nebuchadnezzar. Rome's Titus destroyed the second Temple in 70 CE. According to tradition, both events took place on the ninth

day of the month of Av.

Other calamities mourned include the fall of Betar, the last stronghold of the Bar-Kochba uprising in 135 CE; the building of a pagan temple on the Temple Mount and the reconstruction of a pagan Jerusalem named Aelia Capitolina by the Roman Emperor Hadrian in 136 CE; and the expulsion of the Jews from Spain in 1492.

A three week period of semi-mourning precedes Tisha Be'Av. For the observant, it is a day of fasting. Makeup, perfume and leather shoes are forbidden. Devout Jews sit either on the ground or on low stools as a sign of mourning.

Because the Bible is considered a source of joy, it is not read. Exceptions are *Lamentations*, *Job* and some chapters in *Leviticus* and *Jeremiah*. *Kinnor* (dirges) are also read throughout Tisha Be'Av.

Avraham Katz, ex-MK, dies



Avraham Katz, former MK and head of the Youth and Hechalutz Department of the World Zionist Organization, died of a heart attack yesterday morning in Nairobi. His body is to be returned to Israel on Sunday. Announcements about the funeral will be published later.

Katz was born in 1931 in Nes Ziona. Katz was educated at the Herzliya Gymnasium and was active in the "Young Maccabi" movement and in the Hagana. He served in the Palmach's Harel Brigade during the War of Independence.

Katz was a member of the Liberal Party faction in the Likud bloc, and served in the Knesset from 1969 to 1981.

From 1970 to 1977 he lectured in geography at Tel Aviv University. At the 29th Zionist Congress he was elected to the executive as head of the Youth and Hechalutz Department. He held this post from 1978 until his death.

He is survived by his wife and three children. (Itim)

Dehaishe barrier down



Security forces tear down the last of three barriers blocking the main roads to the Dehaishe refugee camp yesterday.

By JOEL GREENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter
DEHAISHE. — The IDF yesterday took down the last of three barriers it had erected years ago to seal off main roads into the refugee camp here following attacks on vehicles on the adjacent Jerusalem-Bethlehem highway.

Five barriers blocking side roads into the camp are still in place.

Camp residents watched as operators of an army bulldozer and pneumatic drill, working under armed guard, dismantled the barrier, which consisted of large rocks piled in front of two rows of concrete-filled barrels, topped by barbed wire.

The army first sealed off a road into Dehaishe in 1980, when a grenade was thrown from the camp at an IDF patrol. The rest of the barriers were built later after attackers, hurling rocks and petrol bombs at Israeli vehicles, fled through the roads leading into the camp.

Residents of the camp and Unrwa had repeatedly asked the military government to reopen the sealed roads. They said the barricades had seriously disrupted daily life, preventing sanitation trucks from entering the main roads, and forcing ambulances to take circuitous routes in and out of the camp. Dehaishe has a population of some 6,000.

A senior officer said a recent period of calm at the camp led to the decision to begin removing the barriers to main streets, two of which were taken down in January. The officer attributed the calm to increased security measures, including the arrest of leading activists, and to measures taken by the Civil Administration.

He specifically noted infrastructure improvements made in the camp, and the increased number of family-reunification permits issued to the relatives of camp residents living abroad.

He said the removal of the barrier yesterday was timed to coincide with the eve of the Moslem feast of Id al-Adha. "It's a further effort to improve the quality of life," he said.

Some Dehaishe residents expressed satisfaction at the removal of the barrier and said it would enable stores which had closed after the road was sealed to reopen for business. Others were sceptical of the move and its timing. "Fourteen holidays went by without any roads being opened," said Youssef Ahmad Arafah. "They sealed the road just like they're reopening it. No one asked us."

Unrwa area officer Husni Shahwan welcomed the move. "It is a very positive step which will make life easier for the refugees and will facilitate our sanitation efforts in the camp," he said.

Unrwa spokesman Bill Lee said the move was "a good-will measure which we hope will be followed up."

Helsinki means the Soviets are the hosts

By WLADIMIR STRUMINSKI
Jerusalem Post Correspondent
BONN. — By choosing Helsinki as the site for next week's talks with Israel, the Soviet Union is acknowledging that it was the one to initiate contacts, diplomatic observers said yesterday.

The Netherlands represents Israeli interests in Moscow, while Finland performs that role for the Soviets in Israel. The decision to hold the meeting in the Finnish capital, instead of The Hague, which

had been considered, means the Soviets are in effect hosting the talks.

Israel has said repeatedly in the past that it is up to the Soviets to renew contacts, at least officially, since it was the Soviet Union that broke off diplomatic relations in 1967.

The Soviet Union confirmed yesterday that the talks in Helsinki are to deal with consular matters, the Finnish news agency said, quoting

the official Soviet news agency Tass. According to Tass, both sides will speak about establishing consular relations. Observers in Bonn pointed out that until now the Soviet Union had denied that consular matters were to be included in the agenda.

Tass also gave the names of the two diplomats who are to represent the Soviet Union — Genrich Filin and Nikolai Tikhomirov — as well as naming the two Israelis, Yehuda Horan and Yitzhak Shelef.

Ida Nudel's family begins vigil outside Peres's office

Refusenik Ida Nudel's family in Israel started a vigil opposite the Prime Minister's Office yesterday, demanding that Israel not send representatives to Helsinki for talks with Soviet diplomats unless Moscow agrees to put the subject of Soviet Jewry on the agenda.

"A Tass news agency story yesterday said that the Russians would refuse to talk about the question of Jews," said Nudel's sister Ilana Friedman. "Our government should make it clear beforehand that if that is so it will not go to Helsinki. If these are official talks, then this is the first subject that must be discussed. Why should they talk about church property and not Jewish souls?"

The handful of supporters sitting with her late yesterday afternoon

included MK Geula Cohen and Marc Naspitz, who arrived in Israel last year after spending years in Siberian exile for Zionist activism.

Friedman said she would continue her vigil until the Helsinki meeting, set for August 18.

"What I'm doing here?" she said to a visitor. "I'm waiting for my sister. I've been waiting for 15 years and will keep on waiting as long as I have to."

Friedman said that her sister, and the other 800 Soviet Jews who had Israeli citizenship, should be released before any talks begin on matters dealing with Russian property in Israel. "We're talking about Israeli human property in the Soviet Union," she said.

Security service blamed for closing papers

Jerusalem Post Reporter
The publisher of the banned *Al-Mithaq* newspaper and *Al-Ahd* magazine yesterday charged in an application to the High Court of Justice that their closure was an arbitrary political move carried out on orders of the security services.

The court is to hear the application today brought by Mahmud and Ghassan Al-Khatib, requesting an interim injunction to delay the closure until the end of court proceedings.

Meat plant burns

HOLON (Itim). — Considerable damage was caused when a fire broke out in the Shekem meat-processing plant in the industrial zone here at 11:30 a.m. yesterday.

A fire brigade officer described the fire as "exceptionally big" and said that it was only by great effort that it had been prevented from spreading to the upper storeys of the building.

Firefighters fought the blaze for several hours, and one fire engine was left at the site in case the fire broke out again.

How farming can promote improved ties

TEL AVIV (Itim). — An era of expanded cooperation between Israel and Egypt is dawning and agriculture is leading the way in these new relations, according to Agriculture Minister Arye Nehamkin. He was speaking yesterday at the conclusion of a three-week course given here for 15 Egyptian senior agriculturalists.

The course concentrated on irrigation and intensive farming. Both Nehamkin and Dr. Mahmud Said Issa, the leader of the Egyptian delegation, referred to agriculture's central place in Middle East peace efforts. Issa said that a nation's ability to feed itself is the most important thing in today's world, and those who could do this enjoy true freedom.

Israel, Issa said, had proved its high technological ability and had developed advanced irrigation techniques to overcome its shortage of water.

The Egyptians parted from their hosts with the song "Hevev Shalom Aleichem."

In a follow-up to another Israeli-Egyptian contact, the visit here earlier this month of Tourism Minister Foad Sultan, his counterpart, Avraham Sharif, yesterday sent a letter to Cairo reminding Sultan that the two had agreed that Egypt would abolish exit visas for Egyptians wanting to visit Israel.

CRITICISM

(Continued from Page One)

then Drori's chances of getting the top IDF job.

Saguy will be replaced as head of Southern Command by Aluf Yitzhak Mordechai, currently serving as head of the IDF Training Department. It is understood that the latter unit is being downgraded, since some of its responsibilities have been transferred to the GFC and it will

henceforth be headed by a tat-aluf (brigade-general).

Levy told reporters that he was aware of the problems caused inside the organization by moving top officers from their posts after a short time on the job (Saguy was appointed in February 1986 and Mordechai in March). He said that the higher priority, however, was to appoint a strong figure to head the GFC.

On the first anniversary of the death of our beloved

ELEANOR BLATT

we shall meet at the grave at the new cemetery, Ramat Hasharon on Sunday, August 17, 1986, at 5 p.m.

The Family

The World Zionist Organization and The Jewish Agency Executive

sorrowfully announce the passing of

AVRAHAM KATZ

head of the Youth and Hechalutz Department member of the Zionist Executive outstanding educator and committed Zionist.

Our condolences to the family.

The funeral arrangements will be announced.

Aryeh L. Dulzin
Chairman,
Zionist Executive

The Canadian Zionist Federation and Its Youth and Hechalutz Department

extend heartfelt sympathies to the family of

AVRAHAM KATZ

head of the Youth and Hechalutz Department, World Zionist Organization

We deeply mourn the untimely passing of a dear colleague and friend and a respected Zionist leader.

Neri J. Bloomfield
President,
Canadian Zionist
Federation

Zave Ettinger
Chairman,
Youth and Hechalutz
Department, Canada

06/10/1550

Canada allows Sri Lankans to remain but finds holes in their sea saga

ST. JOHN'S, Newfoundland (Reuters). — Canadian authorities were closely questioning Sri Lankan refugees yesterday about their mysterious ocean journey amid growing doubts over their claim that they spent five days in two poorly equipped lifeboats after being dumped at sea.

Scepticism about the refugees' account of how all 152 men, women and children arrived safely off Newfoundland's south coast first arose when officials here expressed surprise at the relatively good condition of the group after apparently being adrift with no food and a small amount of water.

Government authorities have wondered aloud how the group survived five days in fog and rain while arriving here yesterday with no wet clothing.

The two lifeboats, which were discovered by local fishing boats, carried no markings of ownership after the name of the mother ship had been scratched off. Life jackets from the lifeboats were being examined for further clues.

Cold, hungry and thirsty, but in good spirits, the refugees are being cared for in a university residence until immigration officials determine where they will be sent. A decision has already been made to allow the group to stay in Canada at least for one year, provided they are proven to be Sri Lankans.

Meanwhile, a Royal Canadian Mounted Police spokesman said today there was no confirmation of reports that some of the refugees carried West German money and possessions wrapped in West German newspapers, further heightening speculation about the origin of the ocean voyage.

But even if they fail to gain refugee status, they will not be deported home, immigration officials said.

A person who helps refugees said in Hamburg yesterday that the Tamils started their journey in West Germany and not in India as they claimed.

Waldemar Stehn told Reuters the Tamils, who had been living in refugee accommodation in communities near Hamburg, had paid \$2,900 for the trip to Canada to an organization in Paris called Tamil Aid.

He said they were taken to the French port of Calais to board a Lebanese freighter on July 27 with the help of a Palestinian organization which he could not identify.

Spokesmen for the Bonn government said they had no direct information to confirm Stehn's account.

A few refugees allowed to speak to reporters in Newfoundland said they paid between \$3,000 and \$5,000 for passage on an unidentified freighter leaving India around July 6 on a promise of being taken to Montreal.

But the identities of the agents allegedly responsible for spiriting them out of India remained shrouded in mystery.



Benazir Bhutto (Reuters)

Dissidents seized, Bhutto banned from Punjab

ISLAMABAD (AFP). — Police yesterday arrested hundreds of Pakistani opposition activists and banned Pakistan People's Party (PPP) leader Benazir Bhutto from attending a big demonstration in Punjab to mark the country's Independence Day today, opposition sources said here.

Bhutto was served with an order banning her from Punjab for five days as she prepared to board an aircraft in Karachi.

She planned to fly to Faisalabad, from where she was to lead a procession to Lahore on Thursday where the 19-party Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) planned a rally to mark Independence Day.

Bhutto was detained briefly before leaving for her seaside residence near Karachi, where she denounced the crackdown as "repressive" and said the government of Prime Minister Mohammed Khan Junejo was offering "nothing less than a civilian martial law."

The MRD leaders, ignoring Junejo's warning that his 30-week-old civilian government would not tolerate national day confrontation, on Tuesday decided to go ahead with their plan to hold rallies and processions.

Sources in Karachi said that police went into action on Tuesday night, soon after the MRD decision was made public.

Newspapers here said the Punjab government last night banned political meetings in the provincial capital Lahore and processions in other districts following the alleged discovery of an opposition plan "to resort to large scale violence and disruption" on the country's 40th Independence Day.

But Bhutto, who leads the PPP, said MRD rallies and processions were peaceful and free from violence. She claimed that the police swoop indicated that the government "in lacking courage to face the masses has resorted to anti-people measures."

The arrests and banning of opposition meetings represent the first major crackdown by the Junejo government since the lifting of martial law by President Mohammed Zia ul-Haq on December 30 after more than eight years.

Drug dealers set price on head of Bolivia president

LA PAZ (AFP). — International narcotics smugglers based in Colombia have offered \$400,000 to assassinate Bolivia's president, the Interior Ministry announced on Tuesday.

It said two people linked to a plot to kill President Victor Paz Estenssoro between August 1 and 18 have been arrested. Protection has been increased for the president, and also for the foreign, interior and defence ministers, officials said.

The announcement came amid strong criticism by labour unions and opposition parties to U.S. logistics support for current police attacks on cocaine laboratories and air strips hidden in the jungle. The biggest anti-cocaine campaign in Bolivia's history was launched on July 17 by U.S.-trained "Leopard" narcotics police, backed up by 10 U.S. military personnel with six helicopters and communications equipment.

Kohl flays as Honecker hails 25 years of Wall

EAST BERLIN (Reuters). — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl branded the Berlin Wall a monument to inhumanity yesterday, but across the white concrete barrier in East Berlin armed Communist militia marched as part of official celebrations of the wall's 25th anniversary.

"We demand humanity and peace at the border through the middle of Germany," Kohl told a meeting in West Berlin. "Walls, barbed wire and orders to shoot to kill must all go."

In East Berlin, Communist leader Erich Honecker, speaking on a podium bedecked with red flags, said the building of the wall in a lightning operation on August 13, 1961, had saved peace in Europe. "We can say with full justification that it opened the way from confrontation to détente," he said.

Massed ranks of grey-uniformed workers militia wearing steel helmets and with guns slung over their shoulders marched down the broad Karl-Marx-Allee.

Children waved black, red and gold East German flags and cheered in hazy sunshine.

Units of the border guards paraded past Honecker, saluting in a white straw hat. Police and Ministry of State security regiments also participated.

Militia men built a cordon of barbed wire and bricks 160 km around West Berlin at a time when a westward stream of skilled people was draining the East German economy.

Chancellor Kohl, speaking in the former German parliament building, or Reichstag, just metres from the wall on the West Berlin side, stressed what he called the human tragedy caused by the barrier "which tears families apart and prevents human contact." The U.S., Britain and France, partners with the Soviet Union in administering post-World War Two Berlin, protested strongly to Moscow yesterday over the East Berlin parade.

They called it "a clear-cut violation of the demilitarized status of Berlin...all the more deplorable in that it was meant to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Berlin wall in defiance of the most fundamental human rights."

China: Gorbachev's bid welcome but not enough

PEKING (AFP). — China yesterday welcomed Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev's recent Asian initiative, but added it did not go far enough to warrant a normalization of Sino-Soviet relations.

The reaction came as an informed Soviet source said that Soviet First Vice Premier Nikolai Talyzin would make an official visit to China in the first 10 days of September. He would be the first high Soviet official to visit China officially since Gorbachev's speech July 28.

China "attaches importance and expresses its welcome" to Gorbachev's initiative, announced during his visit to Vladivostok, Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian told Soviet Charge d'Affaires Fedotov yesterday.

The reaction, reported by a Foreign Ministry spokesman, said, however, that Wu also pointed out that Gorbachev's speech was "still far from the removal of the three major obstacles" cited by Peking as blocking normal relations with Moscow.

Those conditions are a total withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, an end to the Vietnamese presence in Cambodia and a reduction of Soviet troop strength along China's northern borders.

Wu said Gorbachev had evaded "in particular the question of the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia."

China is most concerned about withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia and a fair and reasonable settlement of the Cambodian question, Wu told Fedotov.

He said China "hopes that the Soviet side will honestly consider the views of the Chinese side."

In his July 28 speech, Gorbachev said Moscow was ready to discuss improved relations with Peking at any time and at any level. He notably announced a partial withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan and indicated a similar move for Mongolia, but he did not touch on the Cambodian question.

Soviet, Polish embassies hit by rebel rockets in Kabul

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan. — Soviet bombing raids have killed some 100 Islamic insurgents and civilians in the Afghan city of Kandahar, Western diplomats said yesterday.

The southeastern city was still in a state of siege, with the guerrillas inside the city and the Soviet and Afghan forces controlling the perimeter, the sources said. Fighting has been raging in the city since July.

Elsewhere, dozens of houses were flattened by Soviet bombing in the northern city of Kohistan on August 8, the diplomats said, forcing many residents to move to the Afghan capital of Kabul.

In Kabul itself, numerous explosions and rocket attacks were reported over the last week. The sources said rebel rockets hit the Soviet Embassy compound twice — during the nights of August 8 and 10 — but the extent of the damage was not known. A rocket also landed on the Polish embassy during the night of August 8, damaging the communications room, sources said.

In Warsaw, a government spokesman yesterday confirmed the Embassy in Kabul was hit by a rocket early Saturday that caused "material damage" but no casualties. Polish government spokesman Jerzy Urban confirmed Wednesday. (AP, AFP)

Vietnam refugees face storms, pirates

SINGAPORE (Reuters). — Nearly a third of the thousands of refugees who flee Vietnam each year are disappearing at sea as the world becomes increasingly indifferent to their plight, humanitarian groups say.

Eleven years after the end of the Vietnam War, refugees are still leaving the country in search of a better life, the groups say. But often their boats sink, their women and children are abducted by pirates, or they are simply ignored by tankers and other ships in one of the world's major shipping lanes.

Armed with a few valuable possessions, the refugees cram their families into leaking wooden boats and try to steer through tropical storms and past pirates waiting to rape and rob them a hundred or so miles out from the Mekong Delta.

"It is a human flow that has not changed in years, although many people are tending to forget," said Rupert Neudeck, an official of a West German group which pays for the rescue ship Cap Anamur II to ply the Vietnamese coast looking for refugees.

The UN, which looks after refugees landing on the coasts of Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines and Hongkong, says just over 12,000 people fled Vietnam safely in the first six months of this year. Last year it was 22,250.

Neudeck estimates that for every 10 refugees who manage to escape, four more disappear at sea. But he thought that anti-pirate patrols operating out of Thailand were scoring successes because his group's ship had seen fewer pirates on its rescue missions this year.

Last month more than 70 men, women and children sat helplessly aboard a boat for five days in the South China Sea and watched 38 commercial ships pass by until the Cap Anamur II appeared.

"The solution is not for a single ship like ours to be sailing around the South China Sea for a few months, but for commercial ships going in big numbers from Singapore to Bangkok or Hongkong to save people."

Hussein Kahn, a UNHCR official in Singapore, said that the UN has

started covering the cost of food and other expenses for ships who change course to take the refugees to ports in the region. Hussein said more ships had rescued refugees since the compensation scheme started last year.

There is now a lull in the exodus because monsoons churning along the Vietnamese coastline make sea escapes even more dangerous than normal. But diplomats and UN officials think the flow will start again in October and November when the weather improves.

About 35,000 refugees now wait in camps all over Southeast Asia for a chance to acquire visas for places like Canada, the U.S. and Europe. Although the camp population has fallen from 140,500 at the end of 1979, it has hardly changed from last year, indicating that fewer refugees are moving on to a new life.

UNHCR officials say some countries outside the region are suffering from "compassion fatigue," forgetting about the refugees and providing fewer visas than they did in the past.

Hassan vows to restore relations with Egypt

CAIRO (AP). — Morocco's King Hassan has promised to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt "as soon as possible," according to a state-owned weekly magazine.

Al-Mussawwar, in its edition to be published today, said Hassan made the pledge in a message to President Hosni Mubarak that was delivered by a royal envoy a few days ago. The Associated Press obtained an advance copy of the magazine.

The weekly attributed its information to the political writer, a customary euphemism for editor Makram Mohammed Ahmed, who is known to be close to Mubarak.

Mubarak met on Saturday with Hassan's emissary, former foreign minister Abdel-Hadi Boutaleb, who delivered two messages from the monarch. Egyptian officials said then that one message briefed Mubarak on Hassan's summit with Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres

at Ifrane, Morocco, last month. Nothing was said about the contents of the second message.

"In the second message," *Al-Mussawwar* said, "King Hassan assured President Mubarak that Morocco intends to resume diplomatic relations with Egypt as soon as possible."

Morocco was among 17 Arab countries that severed diplomatic ties with Egypt in 1979 to protest its peace treaty with Israel. Morocco joined in the collective action, although Hassan had hosted preliminary talks in Morocco between Israeli and Egyptian officials that paved the way for the November 1977 visit to Jerusalem by the late Egyptian president Anwar Sadat.

Al-Mussawwar quoted the king as saying in his message there was no longer anything to prevent him from restoring ties after resignation as chairman of the Arab summit.

Iranian warplanes hit back

BAHRAIN (Reuters). — Iran said its warplanes bombed an oilfield in northern Iraq yesterday, one day after Iraqi jets blasted Iran's Sirri island oil export terminal in the Gulf.

The national Iranian News Agency Irna said Iranian jets struck oil installations 3 km northeast of the Iraqi town of Kirkuk, hitting a computer control centre.

The attack was in apparent reprisal for the blitz on Sirri. Two crippled

supertankers were still on fire there yesterday, but shipping sources said Iran might get its key oil installation back in operation today.

In London, insurance sources said tanker owners planning to send ships to Sirri would now have to pay double insurance rates.

Meanwhile, a commentary on Tehran radio said Iraq was trying to shift the focus of the conflict to industrial and residential areas to cover its weakness on the battlefield.

Amman to repair Al Aksa Mosque

AMMAN (AFP). — The Jordanian government decided yesterday to provide the estimated \$5 million needed to repair the dome of Jerusalem's Al Aksa Mosque, an authoritative source said here.

Jordanian prime minister Zeid Rifai transmitted the decision

yesterday to Sheikh Mohammed Mouhlan, President of the Arab Multinational Committee in charge of refurbishing the mosque.

Observers saw the decision as reflecting Jordan's new policy of helping finance social and religious works in the territories.



Two French UN soldiers watch the perimeter of their headquarters in Marakeh in South Lebanon yesterday after overnight attacks which injured one French soldier. (AFP telephoto)

Indian gov't wins new power to seal borders, combat Sikhs

NEW DELHI (AFP). — The Indian parliament yesterday granted the government sweeping powers to seal its borders with Pakistan in a controversial effort to combat Sikh militancy.

Home Minister Buta Singh told the upper house of parliament that the resolution, which involves a constitutional amendment, was of paramount importance to the national interest. India regularly accuses Pakistan of sheltering and training Sikh militants who cross into India and attack selected targets before fleeing back over the border. Islamabad denies the charges.

Yesterday's resolution grants the Indian government the right to pass laws in border areas, overriding state legislatures which currently enjoy full law-and-order powers. Bowing to opposition demands, the government has limited its new powers to

the north-western border for one year. That is where the Sikhs are fighting to establish a homeland.

Official reports have said the Indian government will declare the entire border with Pakistan — spanning the states of Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat — a "protected area."

Following the vote, 172-48, the Sikh party leader, Surjit Singh Barnala, chief minister in the Sikh-dominated northern state of Punjab, said the resolution showed the New Delhi government had "no confidence" in Punjab's ability to tackle the separatist campaign.

He said the Punjab government had intensified its fight against separatist violence and that results had been achieved. Nevertheless, 18 people have been shot dead on the border between Punjab and Pakistan in the past few days.

Paz Investment and Development Company Ltd.

Notice of Extraordinary General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the company will be held on Thursday, September 18, 1986 at 11.00 a.m. at the offices of Paz Oil Company Ltd., 3 Jaffa Road, Tel Aviv (3rd floor).

Agenda
1. To consider proposed Special Resolutions to increase the Registered Share Capital of the Company from NIS 300,000 to NIS 1,500,000 and to amend the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association accordingly.

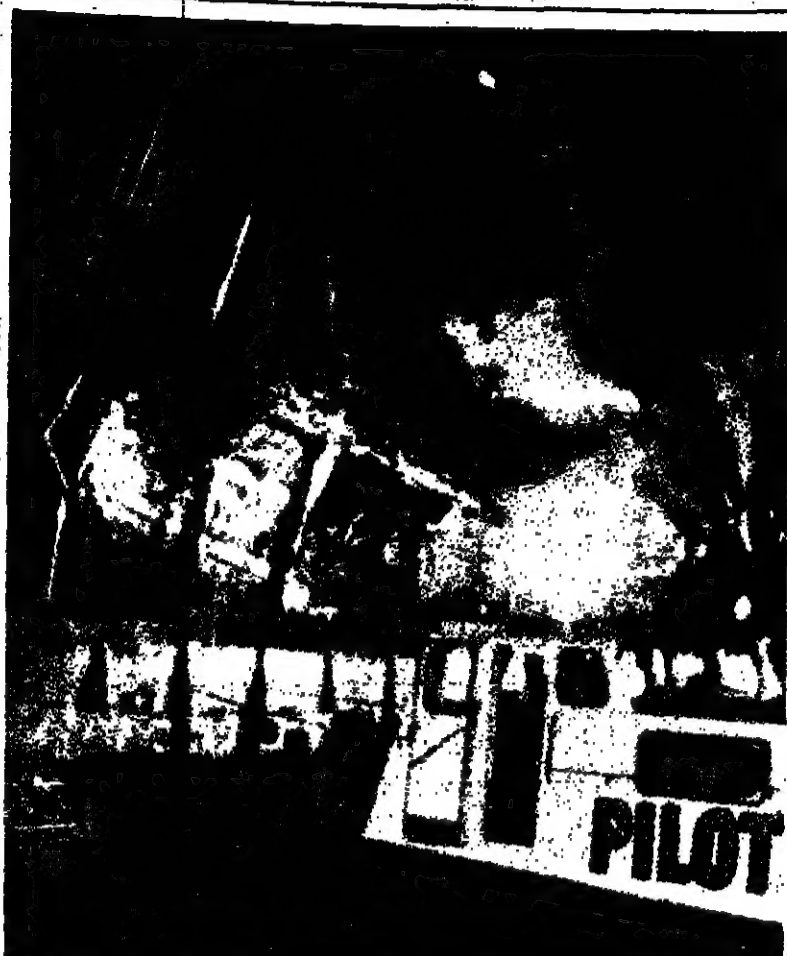
Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given to members and shareholders that the Annual General Meeting of the company will take place on Thursday, September 18, 1986 at 11.15 a.m. at the offices of Paz Oil Co. Ltd., 3 Jaffa Road, Tel Aviv (3rd floor).

Agenda
1. Report of the directors
2. Approval of the financial statements and report of the auditors as of March 31, 1986.
3. Allocation of Profits
4. Appointment of directors
5. Appointment of auditors and fixing their remuneration
6. Miscellaneous

In accordance with the company's Articles of Association, a member is entitled to attend and vote at the meetings personally or by proxy. In order to be valid, a proxy must be duly completed and deposited at the company's registered office not less than 48 hours before the meeting.

S. BAR-LEVAV
Secretary



A fragment of HMS Debraak, an 18th century British warship, is raised at the mouth of Delaware Bay. (Reuters telephoto)

Salvors raise 18th-cent. ship

LEWES, Delaware (AP). — Archeologists yesterday examined cannon balls nearly 200 years old as they began sifting through remains of the British warship Debraak, which sank off the Atlantic coast in 1798.

One gold coin fell from the remains of the Debraak as it was raised, and salvors were optimistic that legends of the treasure on the ship would prove true.

The value of the treasure has been estimated at between \$5m. and

\$500m. About 600 gold and silver coins have been recovered during the two-year salvage effort, as well as historical artifacts.

Originally a Dutch cutter, the Debraak was captured by the British in 1795 and refitted as a brig, whose primary purpose was to harass Spanish and French ships in the Caribbean. Legend has it that the notorious Debraak, under the command of Capt. James Drew, was laden with treasure when it sank after an unexpected squall in May 1798 while heading for the Delaware coast.

KGB defector asks to go home

STOCKHOLM (AFP). — A Soviet KGB (secret police) defector who arrived here yesterday after being deported from Finland has asked to be returned to the Soviet Union, the TT Swedish news agency said.

Earlier, Swedish police said that Igor Azhevski, 22, who fled to Finland in June, but was arrested a month later on theft and drunkenness charges, had said he would request political asylum in Sweden. But he changed his mind in the

afternoon after a meeting, which he requested, with the Soviet consul. He was later taken to the Soviet Embassy.

Azhevski arrived in Stockholm after being ordered out of Finland Tuesday by a court that sentenced him to a five-month suspended jail term for illegally crossing the Finnish-Soviet border, petty theft and drunken driving. Finland does not normally grant political asylum to those who committed crime in the country.

Kurdish rebels kill 12 Turkish soldiers

ANKARA (Reuters). — Twelve Turkish soldiers including a major were killed when Kurdish rebels ambushed their convoy in the mountainous south-east. State Radio said yesterday.


It said one guerrilla was also killed in the clash on Tuesday near the border with Iraq.

Newspaper accounts said the rebels opened fire with automatic weapons and threw grenades at the convoy. A full-scale search of the area had been launched.

with Syria and Iraq has often been the location of attacks by the guerrillas, who want autonomy for Turkey's estimated eight million Kurds.

CASTRO. — President Fidel Castro of Cuba has been awarded the highest Soviet honour, the Order of Lenin, on his 60th birthday yesterday for his "eminent services to the development of fraternal friendship and many-sided cooperation" between Cuba and the Soviet Union, and for his "great contribution" to peace and socialism, Tass reported in Moscow.

Renting your shop?



Old English Shop
owned by Charles Dickens

Hurry!

There are only a few hours left to place your classified ad for tomorrow's Luah Ma ariv. Just take your ad to any advertising agency, or to an office of Ma ariv (or call 03-439439) and it will run in Hebrew in that paper.

Hand it in early enough to make sure it reaches the office of Luah Ma ariv before 5 p.m. today and your ad will also appear in English in The Jerusalem Post.

Beat that deadline!

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

Bulgaria: What's behind its invitation



Shulamit Shamir (David Harris)

By MOSHE KOHN

In the absence of diplomatic ties between Bulgaria and Israel, the invitation to Shulamit Shamir to visit her native land from the Bulgarian Jewish communal organization is tantamount to an official government invitation, according to observers in Jerusalem.

Okpoe (pronounced "awk-paw-veh") is the acronym for the Social, Cultural and Educational Organization of the Jews in the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The invitation to the foreign minister's wife, delivered by the acting head of the Bulgarian delegation to the UN to a member of Israel's delegation, was signed by Dr. Josef Astrukov, Okpoe president and one of the three Jewish members of the Sobranie, the Bulgarian parliament.

The Okpoe membership comprises primarily members of the Bulgarian Communist Party, including two members of the party's central committee, according to Avi Bekker, executive director of the World Jewish Congress Israel Executive. MK Victor Shemtov (Mapam), who was born in Bulgaria and has remained in close touch with Bulgarian Jewish affairs, told *The Jerusalem Post*: "The invitation to Mrs. Shamir is clearly more than just an invitation by the Jewish community."

Okpoe, with 10 branches throughout Bulgaria, apparently embraces the large majority of the country's 2,500 Jews.

The other Jewish organization, the Jewish Religious Council, tends to the needs of a relatively small number, serving synagogues in three cities. It is headed by Josef Levy, a layman, who visited Jerusalem last January for the World Jewish Congress 50th anniversary assembly.

Jews have lived in Bulgaria at least since the reign of the Roman emperor Caligula (37-41 CE). In 1396 Bulgaria became a part of the Ottoman Empire, and like the rest of the empire later served as a refuge for thousands of Jewish fugitives from the Spanish Inquisition.

Though a certain amount of anti-Semitism existed, the Jewish community was quite free to develop in its own way, and by the end of the 19th century, most of Bulgaria's Jews had embraced Zionism.

In 1940, Bulgaria allied itself with Nazi Germany. A year later, Bulgaria acquired Thrace and Macedonia, whose 11,384 Jews were sent to death camps in Poland under an agreement between Germany and the newly established Bulgarian Commissariat for Jewish Affairs. After this deportation, however, church leaders protested, and deportation ceased.

Some water experts downplay crisis

Visions of barren fields 'exaggerated'

BY MENACHEM SHALEV

For The Jerusalem Post

Last winter's drought and the consequent depletion of water resources have given rise to apocalyptic visions of a dehydrated future for Israel's agriculture. And, to judge by the recent discoveries of contaminated water, it would appear that the less water Israel has, the dirtier it gets.

Many experts, however, feel that the degree of public alarm is largely unwarranted.

Israel pumps about 1.7b. cubic metres of water annually from its three main sources. One is Lake Kinneret. Its surface has dropped to wading level, but it still supplies about 500m. cu.m. of water. Another 600 m. cu.m. are extracted from the coastal aquifer (the geological term for an underground natural water source) which extends from Egypt to Lebanon and is 10 kilometres wide. The remaining source is the mountain aquifer, which runs from Beersheba to the Jezreel Valley.

Israel holds a world record for maximum use of water resources. "We've been using 98 per cent of our available water for several years now," says Meir Ben-Meir, director-general of the Agriculture Ministry. "We are supposed to plan so as to enable a balance between the drought years and the bountiful ones. Someone decided a few years ago to 'do well by the people,' and now we are paying the price."

Ben-Meir dismisses visions of barren fields by next year. He admits, however, that if the balance is not restored, by the end of the century



Typical formation of the Negev's loess soil as it packs and cracks during the drought. (Richard Nowitz)

agriculture will receive 40 per cent less water than it does today, with food production decreasing accordingly. "Drinking water, however," he says, "is guaranteed."

Ben-Meir believes that the government has the power and capability to find a long-range solution to the water shortage by investing in

diversion and purification of sewage water. "If we could overcome the hysterics of some ministers who refuse to give up their piece of the pie," he says, "we would be able to have enough water."

Today, Israel uses 100 million cu.m. of sewage water. The rest flows through the wadis, polluting

the groundwater and the sea.

To those maintaining that farmers squander water more than anyone else, it may come as a surprise to discover that during the past months they have been models of frugality. Zerah Ishai, the water commissioner, says that since April farmers have not only met a mandatory water cut of 10 per cent, or 150 million cu.m.,

but have voluntarily decreased consumption by a further 9 per cent.

The cities and local councils, on the other hand, which use about a quarter of the country's total water supply, have disregarded the government's appeal for drastic water cuts, and have reduced their consumption by only 2 to 3 per cent.

The Kinneret's decreasing water level doesn't alarm the water commissioner. "Everything is going according to plan," he says. "We pump about 1.5 centimetres from the Kinneret's water line every day. By the end of the summer, the level will decrease by a further 60 cm. to 212.5 metres below sea level, which is about 3.5 metres below normal. That's exactly what we thought would happen, and I'm not unduly worried about it."

But Prof. Gedalia Shelef, dean of the Technion's Civil Engineering Department and a hydrology expert, is worried. "There is potentially a serious problem," he says. "We have enormous quantities of sewage running close to our natural water sources, and when a third of our water comes from one source, like the Kinneret, and that source is never diluted or rinsed, the water gets dirtier. It's just like in a bathtub. The less water you have, the dirtier it is."

Rami Halperin agrees. He is chief sanitary engineer at the Health Ministry, which makes him the person in charge of ensuring that Israel's drinking water is clean. "The situation hasn't deteriorated," he says. "It's only that more attention is being paid to it."

The crumbling Parthenon gets a major overhaul

ATHENS (Reuters). — Archeologists are taking the 2,500-year-old Parthenon temple apart piece by piece and putting it together again in a major restoration project aimed at giving this city's best-known landmark a facelift.

Pollution, the weather, earthquakes, haphazard restoration attempts at the turn of the century and the feet of millions of tourists have taken their toll on the temple, the only one in Greece built entirely of marble.

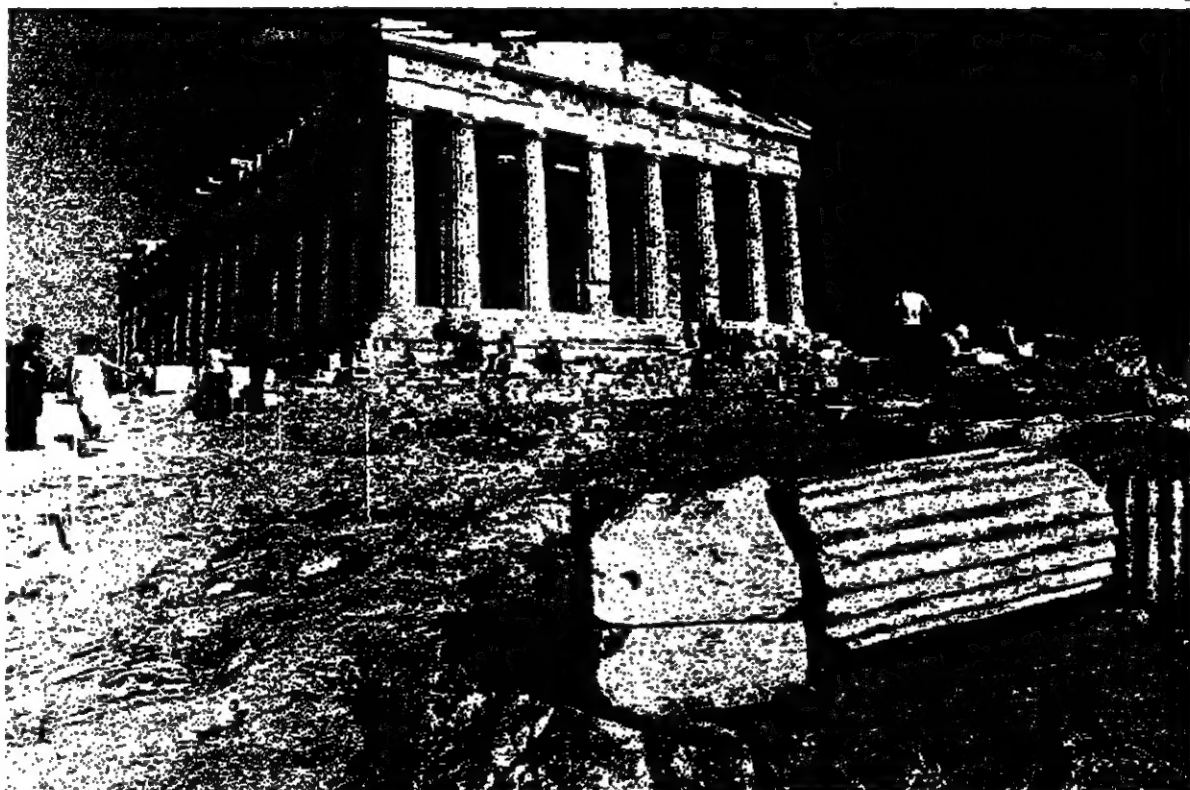
Now the experts are using French equipment installed inside the Parthenon to bring down the slabs of marble one by one and lift them into place again after treatment.

Scaffolding covers the temple's east side, where work is in progress on the frieze, parts of which were cut away by British diplomat Lord Elgin in 1801. This sparked a row between Greece and Britain which still has to be resolved.

Plaster casts of the original frieze sculptures now in London's British Museum will be attached to the temple, said architect Manolis Korres, director of the restoration project.

The east side should be finished at the end of the year after three years of work. "By then we will have treated about 100 pieces of marble. Some of them weighing 10 tons each," Korres said. "We're not trying to rebuild the Parthenon but to mend some of the damage inflicted on it in the past."

The restoration programme, fi-



Tourists at the Parthenon in the days before restoration got under way. (Richard Nowitz)

nanced mainly by the Greek government and the European Community, began in 1983 and is expected to be completed by 1996. Korres said work so far has cost about \$7 million.

The Parthenon, towering over the Acropolis hill, was dedicated to Athena, the ancient goddess of wisdom after whom this city is named.

Designed by Pheidias, it was built in the fifth century BCE to symbolize the glory of the city, which was at the height of its civilization under the rule of Pericles.

The temple remained well preserved until 300 years ago when the Venetians laid siege to the Acropolis, then controlled by the Ottomans,

and the Parthenon was turned into a munitions store. The Venetians bombarded the temple in 1687, and an explosion destroyed a large part of it.

Further damage was caused in the 19th century when the Acropolis became a battlefield between Greek and Turks during the Greek war of

independence from the Ottoman Empire.

Greek archeologists say that Elgin also damaged the Parthenon by carelessly removing sculptures and smashing parts of the wall to reach those he wanted.

Culture Minister Melina Mercouri has waged a five-year campaign to win the sculptures back from the British Museum, but has failed so far.

A series of earthquakes — the first in 426 BCE recorded by the historian Thucydides and the last major one in 1981 — have caused the corners of the temple to shift outwards, making the structure unstable, Korres said.

During restoration work this century, stones have been cemented together and reinforced with iron clamps and rods which have since rusted and swelled, splitting the marble, he added. The iron will now be removed and replaced by rust-proof titanium rods.

The restoration work appears not to have put off visitors, thousands of whom still climb up to the Parthenon every day to admire the play of the sunlight on its sparkling white marble.

But the monument itself has been cordoned off and is out of bounds to tourists, who used to clamber all over columns.

"The greatest amount of wear over the years has certainly been caused by visitors who, until recently, were allowed to go inside the building," Korres said.

BGU denies digging up Jewish graves

By LIORA MORIEL

Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA. — Ben-Gurion University officials are studying a proposal presented on Monday by MK Menachem Porush (Agudat Yisrael) to stop the Tel Haror archeological dig until it is certain that there are no Jewish graves at the site.

A university spokeswoman told *The Jerusalem Post* on Tuesday that the graves are definitely those of Beduin and Turks. "The Beduin always bury their dead at tel," she said. "The graves are arranged in an east-west orientation, pointing to Mecca, and most are concentrated near Sheikh Abu-Horera's tomb."

Hundred of such graves have been found since the expedition began three years ago and were subsequently reburied in a respectful manner, the spokeswoman said. "The sanctity of Beduin graves lasts some 40 years," she said.

Beduin leaders on Tuesday rejected the university's

explanation. "It is a distortion to think that Beduin cemeteries become public property after a number of years and the graves can then be dug up," said Suleiman Albidor. "Even walking on graves is considered desecration, and certainly their removal is unacceptable. Graves are graves and must not be desecrated, whether they belong to Jews or Beduins."

On July 25 members of the ultra-Orthodox Atrā Kadisha, a grave protection society, threatened to destroy all artifacts found at the site if he did not halt the dig immediately to determine whether there are Jewish graves there, the expedition's leader reported.

Prof. Eliezer Oren told reporters that vandals had already destroyed the most valuable artifacts. Two armed university students now patrol the site around the clock, and the police are involved in the case.

It is believed that the tel is the site of the ancient city of Grar. The last known settlement was that of the Persians in the 4th-5th centuries BCE.

Students in Negev learn about lepers of Bhutan

By LIORA MORIEL

Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA. — Forty-four students — half Israeli, half from abroad — are winding up a three-week course in epidemiology at Ben-Gurion University in which, the participants say, they have learned as much from each other as they have from their instructors.

"It's important to learn about other countries, to share information," said Dr. Martha Nava, chief of Bolivia's oral-health programme. "I was interested in hearing about the leper programme in Bhutan. Their lepers have their own community, where they are autonomous. In my country, we have many lepers, but no policy yet."

When the participants receive their certificates next week, they will have completed a programme that requires two or three hours of class time daily per course, as well as a lengthy reading list and mandatory laboratory work. Students are limited to three courses.

The programme, conceived a year ago by Dr. Dina Pilpel, a lecturer of epidemiology at Ben-Gurion, is funded in part by the Foreign Ministry and the World Health Organiza-

tion. It is the first in Israel designed for foreign as well as local students, and has attracted participants from countries that do not maintain diplomatic ties with Israel.

"The emphasis is on the health problems of Third World nations, problems like family planning, demography, infectious diseases and so on," she explained.

By mixing with students from other countries, participants are learning both the problems they share in designing epidemiology programmes, as well as the unique obstacles they face.

Nava, who is the only woman in her country working in oral epidemiology, says: "Every child aged 5-13, gets topical fluoridisation. We can't do it through the water system because 85 per cent of Bolivians don't have running water."

Clearly fluoridization through the water system, the common practice in the developed countries will not work — "We need our own policy," Nava concluded.

In a feature unique to the Ben-Gurion programme, participants are asked to evaluate the most efficient means of achieving their aims using

the facilities and personnel available to them, Pilpel said. For this, she invited Egyptian-born Prof. Michel Ibrahim, dean of the School of Public Health at the University of North Carolina. Ibrahim teaches a course on health policy that is one of the best-attended in the programme.

"The lecturers are very keen on what they're teaching. It's all new but very fascinating for me. I'm wondering whether I shouldn't be studying medicine next instead of going for my doctorate," said Jamilah Abu-Duhodu, an American-educated statistician, who works at the Ramallah Health Services and Research Centre.

One thing she discovered, she said, is that the vaccination programme in the West Bank is better than the one in Israel. In the territories, for example, high school girls are vaccinated against German measles before they leave and marry, she said.

The participants from overseas were especially impressed with their visit to a health clinic in the Beduin township of Rahat and the university's mobile health unit, which services outlying Beduin tribes.

Race on for VOA contracts

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The real fight against the Voice of America transmitter agreement is inspired by the determination of Solel Boneh, Koor and Tadiran to get building contracts for their consortium, without a tender, Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein told the press here yesterday.

"But I am in the government to see that such methods do not prevail," he said. Rubinstein rejected suggestions that the U.S. administration might go back on its word to award at least half the \$300 million project to Israeli contractors. He said the project would provide at least \$150 million worth of work for the Negev, where unemployment is relatively high.

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IN PERSON ROY ISACOWITZ

Masha Lubelsky:

S. Africa evokes Gone with the Wind



Most Johannesburg whites will never visit neighbouring Soweto, the teeming, sprawling black ghetto. But a recent Israeli visitor, Na'amat Secretary-General Masha Lubelsky, made it a point to go there during a week-long tour of South Africa. She went to Soweto on a Saturday morning as the residents were preparing to bury another four victims of communal violence.

"We had been warned not to visit that day, as tension was high," Lubelsky said. "But we went in anyway, in the car of a black friend, and spent three hours driving around."

"A glimpse of Soweto is a must for anyone who wants to begin to understand South Africa. The residents were gathering in groups for the funeral. Police and army units were everywhere, patrolling the streets. It was an unforgettable experience."

Lubelsky visited South Africa at the invitation of the organizers of the National Assembly of Black Women, a coalition of women's church, trade union and community organizations. She was the only foreigner — and the only white woman — to address the assembly's first convention.

The invitation followed a visit to Israel by a group of South African trade union and community leaders a few months ago. Among the members of the group, which spent three weeks at the Histadrut's Afro-Asian Institute, were two prominent black female activists, Sally Motlana and Deborah Mofoket.

When the two, on their return to South Africa, organized the women's assembly, they invited Lubelsky to deliver the keynote speech.

The invitation was not acceptable to all the participants. Fatima Meer the fiery lawyer who opened the convention, launched into a blistering attack on Israel at a press conference before the event started.

"But the others came to my defence," Lubelsky said. "I explained that it was a representative of the workers, not of the Israeli government, and I detailed the Histadrut's strong and consistent opposition to apartheid."

She described the convention as "very practical and not at all anti-white. There was no feeling that there could not be an accommodation with the whites." At the same time, she recalled the implacable opposition of the participants to all aspects of apartheid and their unequivocal support for sanctions against South Africa.

After the convention, Lubelsky addressed Jewish groups in Johannesburg and Cape Town. The life of the Jews, with their honourable houses and servants, reminded her of *Gone with the Wind*, she said.

Lubelsky described an anxious community, torn between its commitment to moral behaviour and concern for its own well-being. "Once the South African Jews were worried about what was happening in Israel," she said. "Now they are worried about what is happening around them."

Lubelsky said that she would continue to maintain contact with the black women she met.

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GIVE SOLDIERS LIFTS

Woody - the serious artist

Latest film reveals creative urban Jew in classic Diaspora image

Calev Ben-David

ALLEN STEWART Konigsberg is quite likely the most famous living Jew in the world today, a distinction he has earned by writing, directing, or performing in over 20 movies under the name Woody Allen. His latest effort, *Hannah and Her Sisters*, already playing throughout the U.S. and Europe, has garnered him some of the most outstanding reviews of his career, and has sealed his reputation as the leading comic genius, and one of the most accomplished film artists, of our age. But *Hannah* also reveals once more the ambivalence with which Allen regards his Jewish identity, an identity that has fuelled his art but is often the subject of his satirical self-deprecation.

Allen no longer appears as the stereotypical physically bumbling, sexually inept *shlemiel* of his early films. In *Hannah*, he is a successful, neurotic, creative urban Jew able to attract beautiful and intelligent women - in fact, a figure much like his real self. He plays a television producer, a severe hypochondriac, who suddenly experiences a real death scare when he is misdiagnosed as having a brain tumour. His brush with mortality inspires a search for the meaning of existence that leads him into an attempted conversion to Roman Catholicism.

In a brief scene, his parents (as usual, Brooklyn-Jewish clichés) argue with his decision. But when pressed by the Woody character if they can offer any answers to the question of man's existence, his father responds: "The meaning of life? I don't even know how I'm going to make it through to next week!"

This is exactly the kind of scene that, earlier in his career, brought Allen's attitudes towards his Jewishness under critical scrutiny. After *Annie Hall*, one prominent American film critic questioned whether Allen was correct in expressing a near-paranoid sensitivity to perceived anti-Semitism ("And he said to me, 'Jew want lunch?' Not 'Do you' but 'Jew'"). Another reviewer saw in *Manhattan*, the portrayal of innocent, honest, loving, blond *shiksa* *Mattie* Hanningway - in comparison with neurotic, intellectually pretentious, untrustworthy Diane Keaton - as a put-down of Jewish women, despite the fact that the Keaton character is not even identified as being Jewish.

THOUGH THESE themes are also expressed throughout *Hannah*, they have not been the subject of much critical comment. One reason is that Allen's audience is by now quite familiar with his obsessions, and another is that he has grown more subtle in expressing them in his work. In *Annie Hall*, he splits the

screen to show the difference between a Jewish and a WASP family at each other about health and money, and the WASPs placidly discuss "boat basins and swap meets." In *Hannah*, Allen need only show the family of the Mia Farrow character sitting down to no less than three Thanksgiving dinners in the course of the film. The relationship of the Woody character to this WASP family is a far more successful interpretation of the similar relationship in *Interiors* between Yiddish *Mamma* Maureen Stapleton and that film's ridiculously repressed Gentile clan.

Yet even the Jewish references in *Annie Hall* are mild compared to the often savage satire of Jewishness seen in Allen's early stand-up comedy. His parents were often the butt of his humour, as in his description of their "Jewish values - God and carpeting." He was even more biting in attacking Jewish assimilationist tendencies, as when he claimed to know "a family so ashamed of their Jewishness that, in the 1944 Dewey-Roosevelt presidential election, they voted for Hitler. They gave their son a Christian first name so that no one would know that he, Guy de Maupassant Rabinowitz, was Jewish."

Allen did grow up in a traditional Jewish family, and his genuine knowledge of Jewish lore is evident in his absurd "Hassidic tales" about Rabbi Ben Kaddish of Chelm, "who developed the art of whining to a point unheard of in the West." When asked by a student why Jews are not allowed to eat pork, this revered rabbi responds "We're not Oyl!"

The excesses of Reform Judaism were also a favourite target - he describes himself as having been married by a "Reform Rabbi, very Reform, in fact, a Nazi." In the experimental 1960s, he visits a swinging modern Jewish synagogue, the "Bnei A-Go Go; they advertised toppers rabbis - without kippot."

In the few interviews he allows, Allen is notoriously reticent, particularly on subjects as personal as his religious views. His attitude to traditional Judaism is best discerned in his films, particularly in a scene from *Zelig*, when his characters recall: "When I was five years old I ran to see our rabbi, and I said 'rabbi, what is the meaning of life?' And he told me. But he told me in Hebrew, so I didn't understand him. Then he said he wanted to charge me \$200 for Hebrew lessons."

WHAT, THEN, does Allen perceive as the Jewishness of the character he portrays in his work?

It has been noted countless times that his is the classic Diaspora image



of the Jew as outsider, the alien observer in a strange and sometimes hostile non-Jewish environment. In his earlier, cruder work, this character is the pathetic, victimized, almost Chaplinesque figure of *Bananas* and *Sleeper*. As his work has grown more sophisticated, so has this character, who now is often portrayed as even somewhat superior to morally and intellectually shallower Gentiles among whom he lives.

The Woody character is no longer the comic little Jew, but is now closer in spirit to the alienated urban Jewish protagonists found in the work of Saul Bellow and Philip Roth.

What has not changed is that this figure's Jewishness is reflected

almost exclusively in his perception of his non-Jewish environment, and how this white-bread world views him. Allen's identity is confirmed most of all by the comment of Diane Keaton in *Annie Hall* that "You're what my Grammy Hall would call a real Jew!" In *Zelig*, his mock-documentary of a Jewish human-chameleon, he creates a modern fable on the theme of alienation and assimilation.

It is a sign of Allen's artistic growth that these themes are woven into the total tapestry of *Hannah* with subtlety and insight. It now almost does Woody Allen a disservice to focus on his "Jewishness" to the exclusion of the other elements of his work. But whatever his intentions, he has now succeeded in making the explicit image of the Jewish outsider in the Diaspora into a world-famous figure of popular culture.

If *Hannah* demonstrates conclusively that we must now take Allen seriously as an artist, then this aspect of his work must now be considered as more than a springboard for Jewish jokes. There are elements of tragedy as well as comedy in this situation, and Allen, to his credit, has begun to explore this view in recent works like *Hannah* and *Zelig*. Filmmaker, funny man, and famous public figure, he now occupies the most prominent position in another area of our cultural life: Woody Allen. Galut Jew.

Kitty opens the door to invasion

IF I didn't know the source, I would most certainly start looking for an exorcist, for my house has suddenly become plagued with all sorts of things that "go bump in the night."

The sounds, however, are not the work of poltergeists or demons but entirely attributable to one small Siamese kitten called Nikki, a shortening of her full and descriptive title of *nudnikit*. I do not know whether she has a secret and ineffable name, as T.S. Eliot contends. She certainly does not spend any time in solemn contemplation of her real name, if she has one, because she is only to be found in one of two states: either she is in perpetual and mischievous motion or collapsed in deep sleep while recharging her transistor-sized energy cells for the next bout of frenzied activity.

The 13-week-old cat has been in the house for 21 days. In the case of a planned adoption, I never take a kitten that has not had a full 10 weeks with its mother. Only when the adoption is an emergency measure, as in the case of a foundling, do I relax that rule. Cats need an extended period of maternal care and instruction, and the kitten that does not get at least 10 weeks of this care often suffers from severe damage to its basic personality. Nikki had those 10 weeks and is, consequently, healthy, lively, playful and unafraid.

Nothing is sacred and everything from curtains to table-cloths are fair game, while my tape-measure, when being used, is a prime target for her playful leaps and bounds. Watching her with a small, soft rubber ball or while chasing and stalking a beetle makes me wonder if the famed *taichi* of Chinese antiquity was not perfected by an astute watcher of a playful kitten.

But what we see as play in a kitten is, as in many other mammals, actually training for their more important roles in life. The same graceful agility practised on tape measures, rubber balls or wooden spoons of sewing cotton are the techniques needed to tackle a defensive rat or even a poisonous snake in later life. I once saw a mature Siamese catch a 60 cm. viper after exhausting its poison reserves by useless strikes at the place where the cat had just been and then closing in for the kill when the viper was spent.

My venerable middle-aged Siamese tom tolerates this young nuisance in a truly patrician manner. He certainly resents having his tail pulled when it hangs down over the edge of a chair while he naps but for the most part he eyes the creature with an owl's resignation.

He has only made three rules but he has taught her firm adherence to all three. She may not climb onto or even approach my bed, she may not curl up in my favourite chair (he does, of course) and she must not go near the place where his food is kept.



Furs, fins and feathers
by D'vora Ben Shaul

She has her own corner and must be content with it. He, on the other hand, reserves the right to have a sip of water or milk from her dish, and just to show her place, even condescends to nibble her cat kibble, a food he has disdained all his life.

Naturally she has had her inoculations and has been gently treated against tapeworm, so she is growing by leaps and bounds. I think she is quite beautiful but the old tomcat fails to comprehend her future status as mate and companion. For the time being he could do very well without her.

ONE OF the letters that reached me this week was from a veterinary surgeon, a new immigrant, who questions the advice I gave about using flea collars on kittens. I understand his concern and will again mention that I leave them out to dissipate some of their potency before using them. I also watch the kitten like a hawk during the first 36 hours of exposure to the collar and, of course, never use one on a kitten less than 10 weeks old. But then, as I mentioned, I rarely have a kitten younger than that.

But the subject is certainly one that deserves sincere thought and appraisal. In this part of the world, we have a far greater tick problem than in most places. Unfortunately, when winters are mild, as the past two have been, the ticks are in no way diminished by exposure to the cold, making their expanding population a serious problem. When I weigh the dangers of a human getting a tick-borne fever from the bite of these pests, I opt for rigid, even though risky, methods of keeping ticks off the cats and the dog, and thus out of my bed and upholstery.

Over the past 20 years or so in this country, I have seen a lot more accidents to kittens and puppies from improper use of insecticidal powders and dips than from collars. But again I would caution users, in every case, whether it's a kitten or a full grown cat, to watch carefully during the first days for vomiting, loss of appetite, lethargy, scratching in the collar area or any other change in natural behaviour of the animal. Some cats are violently allergic to the material in these collars, just as some are hypersensitive even to the pyrethrin-based insecticidal powders that are supposed to be safe for cats.

New Beersheba mayor winner of the big deal

NEGEN NOTEBOOK
Liora Moriel

IN A special session early this week, the Beersheba City Council elected Moshe Zilberman as mayor to replace Eliahu Navi, who had resigned after 23 years to take over a senior Histadrut post in Tel Aviv.

Voting 11-7 the council thus put an end to months of wrangling and intrigues. The district court ruled on Sunday that Navi and council member Yehezkel Wiesel, both of whom no longer live in town, are ineligible to vote in the mayoral elections. Zilberman had been Navi's deputy ever since they set up the independent Eshel list several years ago. He lacks Navi's charisma and charm, but is known as an honest and hard-working man. While he may have no lasting political base of his own, he also has no enemies on the political front, only rivals for the post of mayor.

The two major contenders actually belong to the same party, Labour, which is the party to which Navi returned before being selected for the Histadrut job. Former MK Uri Sabag and the current chairman of the local labour council, Ben-Zion Carmel, have been eyeing City Hall for years. Sabag nearly overcame Navi in the last elections, garnering 48 per cent of the votes and forcing a second round of balloting. Carmel was once Navi's deputy, until he began to act more like a rival than a protégé.

For a while, it looked like Sabag was all set to become mayor: 11 council members signed a statement pledging their support for him. The 11, however, did not include even one of his own party's representatives, and Labour's Tel Aviv head office must have fumed at the idea that it would be the Likud that would be putting a Labourite in the coveted seat.

Meanwhile, Navi was working overtime behind the scenes to ensure that his loyal deputy, Zilberman, would succeed him, thus ensuring a smooth transition and few personnel changes at the top. Intrigue followed intrigue as deals were made and broken in rapid succession.

A source close to the wheeling and dealing revealed that only three

days before Zilberman's election this week, Carmel was approached by the heads of all the factions except Zilberman's Eshel list and asked to be mayor. But by then, he was so cynical or weary (or wary) that he declined.

In the final deal, Zilberman was backed by both Labour and the National Religious Party - headed by Wiesel, who may be thrown off the council soon because he now lives in Metar, a new villa-village outside the city limits.

The deal calls for a deputy from each party. Thus, on Monday, the city council voted to install the NRP's Eliahu Marciano as a salaried deputy and to keep the two other current salaried deputies, Arik Nisan (Labour) and Rafi Shitrit (Eshel).

Because the NRP until very recently had pledged to support Sabag, some look upon the party as "traitorous" - especially Agudat Yisrael, the rival religious party which had supported Navi in the past.

The new coalition agreement guarantees that a Labour member will replace Zilberman in the upcoming fiscal year, beginning in April 1987. Whether it will be Sabag or Carmel is still not known. In fact, whether the rotation will take place at all is seen to be an open question by some analysts here. "What the NRP has done, going back on a written agreement, is very bad and this, coupled with a staggering \$30m. municipal deficit, does not augur well for this coalition," said one observer. "By the end of the month people will have to be fired and salaries reduced if paid at all. So I think the Interior Ministry's district representative will have no choice but to disperse the elected council and install an appointed one instead."

Journalists covering the special council session were given a leaflet outlining Navi's achievements during the past 23 years but the deficit and lethargy that is his sad final legacy were omitted. The new mayor will be hard put to correct all that in the seven-and-a-half months at his disposal.

Creating a footing in the Judenrein north Negev

There & Then/Sraya Shapiro

THE SAGA of the Eleven Settlements, put up simultaneously at the close of Yom Kippur nearly 40 years ago, has an honoured place in the annals of the Return to the Land. It came as a surprise to the authorities, nay, to the yishuv as well. Overnight, Jews created a footing in the northern Negev, an area which was practically *Judenrein* - and was intended to remain so in the thinking of the geo-politicians who had conceived the Arab League. One of the settlements, perhaps the smallest, but the one nearest Beersheba, was Beit Eshel. I spent a night there while on a tour of the area in the company of Ze'ev Meytes, the agricultural adviser of the Jewish Agency.

The settlement then was hardly more than a stone bungalow and a few tents. The bungalow consisted mainly of one big room, which served as a dining room at meal times and as a recreation room in the evenings. I remember a young girl knitting there at a table. She said Beit Eshel would develop as a moshav, but that meanwhile they lived as a kibbutz. The guests were accommodated on cots in the big room, while the settlers went to sleep in their tents.

Around that time, too, Beit Eshel was to host a distinguished visitor. Lord Gort, who had been recently despatched from the active army to be the High Commissioner for Palestine, informed Dr. Bernard (Dov) Joseph that he would be visiting Beit Eshel on a Saturday. Dr. Joseph was then a member of the Jewish Agency Executive. He said the High Commissioner's visit would be an honour; but, unfortunately, it being a Saturday, there would be no member of the agency to accompany His Excellency on this trip.

"But Joseph phoned me in Tel Aviv that night and he instructed me to go post haste to Beit Eshel," recalls Meytes. He also told me to "put on your working clothes and tell the High Commissioner you are a farmer and member of the settle-

ment, and answer all his questions intelligently."

And, obviously, the first question His Excellency put was: "What does Beit Eshel stand for?"

"I anticipated the question, and looked in the English version of the Bible for an exact quotation," Meytes says. "It is about Abraham." Meytes explained to his visitor, "He planted a tamarisk here. But the English Bible makes a mistake. It says Abraham planted a grove."

"Mistake? The English Bible - a mistake?" Lord Gort was indignant. He instructed his secretary to look into it. That same night, Joseph phoned Meytes. "Since when are you a Bible scholar?" he fumed. It seemed that the Englishman took the Jewish farmer's remark as a personal offence. However, a thorough investigation was conducted by scholars. The fact emerged that *eshel* which today is normally identified with "tamarisk," was rendered simply as "grove" by the English Bible translators.

MEYTES was brought to Palestine as a child and grew up in an orthodox environment on the outskirts of Tel Aviv near the sea-shore. He graduated from the Mikve Yisrael agricultural school, and went to Nancy, a very popular place for Jewish "Palestinians" to study agriculture - a trade considered of first-class importance for the future of the state-in-the-making.

And then he entered the service of the Government of Palestine as an agricultural inspector.

It was in this capacity that he learned what bureaucracy stood for. When civil servants travelled outside their town of residence, Meytes recalls, they were requested to use the railways where possible. In the absence of a railway line, they could take "a seat in a bus," or "a seat in a taxi" (the *shvut* was an old invention here), or, where no other means of transportation existed, the official could take a taxi.

ELEVEN SETTLEMENTS PUT UP IN A DAY NEW JEWISH VILLAGES IN THE NEGEV

Palestine Post Staff

The map of Palestine was changed yesterday when 11 new Jewish settlements were established in a sweeping dawn-to-dusk action in the desert of Southern Palestine and the Negev.

At dawn, scores of vehicles brought men and building materials to the 11 selected sites on Jewish National Fund land, stretching from Gedera to Rafah, and by dark, tents and fences had been erected and the beginnings made on the construction of the first huts.

"These 11 settlements will revive the desert and provide a haven for refugees," declared a statement issued by Jewish National bodies late last night. The statement reported that Arab villagers in the regions settled yesterday welcomed the new settlers hospitably. There were no disturbances of any kind. Cultivation of the land is to begin immediately.

The new settlements were founded at the following places:

1. Beit Yehon (near Kestina), Kedma kibbutz.
2. Beit Yehon (near Lachish), Gai-On kibbutz.
3. Beit Dabulim, Kibbutz Elit.
4. Beit Mamon, (half-way between Dorot and Be'er-sheva), Mitzpeh Be'er-sheva.
5. Madoun, Mitzpeh Be'er-sheva.
6. Khaleasa, (South-west of Beersheba), Garin Afikim.
7. Sukra, Tzfat kibbutz.
8. Bahir, Be'er-sheva kibbutz.
9. Beit el Shal (half-way between Gaza and Khan Yunis).
10. Dangur, Mitzpeh Be'er-sheva.
11. Ben, Urim kibbutz.

"DELICATE" SITUATION

Palestine Post Staff

The situation between President Truman and Mr. Acheson remains, as described by Mr. Charles Ross, presidential press secretary, on Saturday, "delicate".

Following the President's statement calling for immediate substantial Jewish immigration to Palestine and the Prime Minister's reply.

Although the text of the reply has not been released, it is known to have been strongly worded. According to "Yediot Ahronot," Mr. Truman is preparing a further note, which, the paper states, will be as strongly worded as Mr. Acheson's.

Of actual movement in connection with the Conference, "Yediot Ahronot" reports from Paris that the British Foreign Minister has arranged for an early meeting with Mr. Ezyon, the American Secretary of State, for which Mr. Ezyon has called over a number of Colonial Office officials. The paper adds that Mr. Ezyon has received special instructions from President Truman concerning the Middle East.

Opponents Meet NEHRU, JINNA AND VICEROY

NEW DELHI, Sunday (R) Important developments in the political field have followed the four interviews which Mr. Mohammed Jinnah, Muslim League leader, has had with the Viceroy, Field Marshal I. Wavell.

The Nawab Shujaat, Chairman of the Chamber of Princes, who has been acting as a mediator in the hope of bridging the gap between Congress and the Muslim League and paving the way for a coalition government, was the host at a luncheon yesterday to Mr. Jinnah and Field Marshal Wavell.

Observers in New Delhi said that prospects of a Muslim League joining the interim Government have considerably improved and possibility of Mr. Jinnah's one of the five League representatives in a coalition administration was being discussed last night.

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FIVE KILLED

NEW DELHI, Sunday (R) Five people were killed and ten wounded by stabbing in Bombay, where

Part of the front page of the Monday, October 7, 1946 edition of The Palestine Post.

"One day I had to go to Tiberias," Meytes said. "I duly rode to Haifa in a train, then took the narrow-gauge Emek train to Zemar, the nearest station to Tiberias. But I arrived too late to catch the bus to town. A Jewish doctor, also a government employee, was travelling with me in the same direction. We took a taxi."

"When it came to payment, I suggested that each of us take a receipt for half the fare - 20 piastres for each of us. At the end of the month I duly submitted the receipt to our accountant, but it was not honoured. Why? Because, I was told, the authorities acknowledge a seat in the bus, or a seat in a taxi, or full taxi fare - but not a half one."

There ensued a year-long correspondence between the junior agricultural officer and the authorities. Finally, a ruling of the Colonial Office in London upheld the resolution of the Jerusalem accountant not to recognize the legitimacy of half a taxi fare.

Meytes is also connected to the introduction in Israel of cultivating sisal - a plant which was believed to be of the utmost importance for local industry until nylon superseded it as

a strong and pliable fibre. And once I met Meytes in Accra, the capital of Ghana, where he stayed for several years instructing Ghanaians in modern farming. Service was taken very literally by Meytes's generation.

But, to Beit Eshel again. I visited the place a few days after it was liberated. It was all a big dug-out, surrounded by sandbags. Beit Eshel, barely two kilometres away from Egyptian-held Beersheba, sustained an unremitting artillery barrage for over five months. I am told that Beit Eshel today is a fashionable villa quarter of Beersheba, but as for its unsung heroes, some of them can be found in a small kibbutz in the Jezreel valley.

Berlin Wall — the dash to freedom

Andreas Bratke ran the
fastest 100 metres
of his life.

Paul Holmes
West Berlin

AT 3:30 PM the afternoon of January 17, 1986, Andreas Bratke ran the fastest 100 metres of his life.

"I thought: it's now or never," he recalled as, from the western side of the Communist-built Berlin Wall that separates him now from his parents, he pointed to where he began to run.

The East Berlin telephone engineer, 24, had been working under East German guard on modernization of the Checkpoint Charlie crossing in the wall. It was his last day, a Friday.

"I looked around, and the two border guards who were always with me were nowhere in sight... I sprinted straight for the barrier and past a captain, who charged after me right up to the demarcation line shouting: 'I'll get you, you swine'."

Bratke ran on — into the arms of a West Berlin customs officer who "looked at me as if I'd just stepped off the moon."

THE WALL was built 25 years ago yesterday, on August 13, 1961, when armed guards split Berlin with barbed wire and brick. Two days later, the first East German soldier to flee over the wall made a dash similar to Bratke's.

In the quarter-century since, there have been hundreds of tales of escapes — successful, ingenious, disastrous, fatal.

Some escapees have come out disguised as Soviet officers to the salutes of border guards. In several journeys in 1964, nine people slipped through hidden in the compartment of a bubble car so small it was not considered worth searching for refugees.

The same year, 57 people crawled out through a 145-metre-long tunnel, dug 12 metres down beneath the wall, from an outside toilet in the East to a bakery cellar in the West. One man, in 1965, slung a wire cable from the roof of a building in the East to the West and slid down over the wall with his wife and child in home-made chair-lifts.

However, small crosses in the ground just behind the Reichstag building, where the river Spree flows past the wall, bear witness to attempted escapes that have gone tragically wrong.



West Germans atop the Berlin Wall this week display their flag to East German border guards. (Reuters)

MORE THAN 75 people have died trying to reach the western side of the wall — many shot by border guards, some drowned in the cold waters of the Spree. Countless others have been arrested and jailed in East Germany for "attempting to flee the republic."

"Most escape attempts fail before the people even get to the wall. Either they talk too much or they act suspiciously, like closing bank accounts and selling things," said Horst Schumm, a former "escape helper" from the West.

Schumm, now deputy director of the Checkpoint Charlie Museum devoted to the wall's history, was arrested in East Germany in 1974 and sentenced to 15 years in jail for helping 15 people escape.

He said he was bought free by the West German government in 1981 and had not helped organize escapes since. "I did it for several reasons but never got a penny. It was idealism, partly ideological, and certainly to some extent out of a sense of adventure," Schumm, 35, said, adding, "I

now tell people to apply for an exit visa."

Helpers these days can charge Western relatives or friends of East Germans wanting to escape up to \$50,000 Deutschmark (\$32,000) with no guarantee of success, he said.

One escape helper was reported recently to have smuggled out an East Berlin man blacked-up and disguised as a Ghanaian by a professional make-up artist.

"Sometimes it can work to use doubles. You find someone who looks like the person you want to get out. The double goes over, swaps papers and the East German comes out. The double gets out another way," Schumm said. He would not say what the other way was, but made clear it was dangerous and expensive.

NO RELIABLE tally is available for the number of successful escapes in the 25 years of the wall's existence, but as the barrier has become more sophisticated, through rebuilding, so it has become harder to beat.

When the bricks and barbed wire went up in 1961, and houses still formed part of the wall's snaking course, escapees would drive cars through, amid a hail of bullets, or jump from windows onto sheets held by West Berliners.

Today's wall is white, high and backed from the east by a sophisticated network of watchtowers, floodlights, fences, alarms, tank traps and ditches. But people still try to get through.

"As long as the wall exists, there will always be people who try to escape. People will always be looking for ways and ideas, though they will also need luck," said Schumm.

Luck was certainly on the side of Andreas Bratke when he made his 100-metre dash. But could Bratke, who said he had long thought of escaping before, his chance came.

"If I had to run those 100 metres not knowing whether or not the guards would shoot, I don't think I could," (Reuters)

A Dutchman escapes to S. African 'prison'

Henrietta Boas
Amsterdam

EXCEPT in his native home of Holland, the bizarre story of Klaas de Jonge seems to have escaped all mention in the world's media. Last month, the 50-year-old Dutchman entered his second year of voluntary imprisonment in the former Dutch Embassy building in Pretoria which he refers to as a South African prison. With the way things stand at the moment, de Jonge could well spend the remainder of his life confined to the closet of this embassy building.

The only people he sees are the South African police on 24 hour guard outside the building, ready to arrest him the minute he steps foot outside, and some Dutch military police inside whose task is to keep the South African police out. Occasionally he sees members of the Netherlands Embassy staff who supply him with food, and his lawyer, who also acts as a courier for his letters to the outside world.

Klaas de Jonge was arrested in June 1985, a few days after the arrest of his former wife Helene Passtoors, on suspicion of having aided, together with Passtoors, the banned African National Congress hide large quantities of arms, ammunition, land mines and grenades in remote parts of South Africa. De Jonge, who studied anthropology

and sociology in Amsterdam, was known for his sympathy for liberation movements and soon after his marriage to Passtoors, the two went to live in Maputo, Mozambique.

On June 23 last year, de Jonge was stopped by South African security police in northeast South Africa whilst driving back to Mozambique. Only then did he learn of the arrest of his former wife who a few months ago, after admitting her involvement with the ANC, was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment.

DE JONGE, on his arrest, decided to pretend to cooperate with the police. He told them that he was ready to point out certain places in Pretoria where at one time or another he had hidden arms. He was taken to Pretoria and dutifully led the police to several buildings.

He then asked the police to escort him to the Nedbank building where, he said, he had another place to show them and the police complied. What the police did not realize was that the first floor of this building housed the Netherlands Embassy.

De Jonge led his escort up to the first floor and then rushed into the corridor of the embassy shouting, "I am Klaas de Jonge, a Dutch national. I claim political asylum."

The police immediately dragged him away but this, because he was a Dutch national on Dutch territory, was a serious infringement of international law which considerably impaired Dutch-South African relations. Following intense diplomatic

activity by the Netherlands, the South African government agreed to return de Jonge to the Dutch Embassy.

However, his problems did not end there. The embassy was in the midst of moving to another location but de Jonge could not move with them for the moment he left the building to enter a car, he would be arrested. Nor was there the possibility of smuggling him out in a large trunk: the embassy was not prepared to break diplomatic convention. The only solution was not to vacate the premises entirely and leave de Jonge where he was, in the care of a token team of embassy staff.

This has been the situation now for over a year. Several times a Dutch diplomat has been sent to Pretoria to negotiate with the South African authorities but to no avail. De Jonge himself has not helped his case. His diary, smuggled out by his lawyer and published in Dutch newspapers openly mocks the South African authorities as well as some of the Dutch embassy staff who keep him in prison.

The plight of his ex-wife did not prompt him to come to her aid during her trial where he was named as an accomplice: such chivalry would not have helped her and would have cost him several years in prison.

But as the situation stands, Helene Passtoors will be free in 10 years time whilst de Jonge, under the rules of international law, may live for the rest of his life in his closet in Pretoria's Nedbank building.

Yugoslavia, Albania form link

Vjekoslav Radovic
Titograd

AFTER DECADES of self-imposed isolation, Albania has got its first rail link with the outside world.

When the first train rolled out from this Yugoslavian town towards the Albanian border on August 6, it may have heralded the beginning of a new era in relations between the two countries, but ideological differences still remain.

Although Yugoslavia and Albania are neighbours, they have been worlds apart politically for nearly 40 years.

The Yugoslavs helped build the first Albanian railway in 1946, during a brief spell of good relations between Yugoslav leader Josip Broz Tito and Albanian ruler Enver Hox-

ha, both now dead.

When Tito split with the Soviet bloc in 1948, the honeymoon period ended. Albania also broke relations with Moscow in the early 1960s, but to this day remains a staunch proponent of the Stalinist model of communism with rigid state controls.

YUGOSLAVIA, after charting an independent course from Moscow, embarked on the road of non-alignment in foreign policy and introduced a decentralized "workers' socialist self-management" economic policy.

It has opened its borders to such an extent that it no longer requires visas for visitors from most European and some Middle East and Latin American countries. Its annual yield from tourism tops \$1 billion, mostly from the West.

Albania, on the other hand, has isolated itself from the rest of the world.

Relations between the two countries were aggravated by riots in 1981 in the Yugoslav province of Kosovo, inhabited by 1.7 million ethnic Albanians and some 300,000 Serbs and Montenegrins.

Yugoslavia accused its neighbour of encouraging Albanian nationalists in Yugoslavia to riot.

HOWEVER, the difficulties between the two countries have not prevented them from developing economic relations. Last year their trade amounted to \$135 million and both sides believe there is room for expansion.

For the time being, there will be no passenger traffic across the border. However, the official Yugoslav news agency Tanjug quoted Albanian officials as saying they expect between 700,000 and one million tonnes of goods to be transported on the rail link annually. (Reuters)

Life isn't all that easy in Moscow, Russian dreamland

Wladimir Struminski / Post Bonn Correspondent

Too much alcohol, too few trains in overcrowded capital

TO LIVE in Moscow is the unfulfilled dream of millions of Soviet citizens. For Muscovites themselves, however, life in the Russian capital, even though less dull in general than in the provinces, is by no means a *dolce vita*. In April of this year, Boris Yeltsin, the first secretary of the powerful city of Moscow party committee, admitted many shortcomings in the way in which the city functions. Original excerpts from his statement which have reached the West show a lamentable picture.

Moscow is overpopulated. There are 8.7 million inhabitants in the city while its development plan calls for 7.6 million by the year 1990. Two

and a half million inhabitants are in need of new housing space. Many live in tiny flats which will have to be torn down in the near future, and such apartments have kitchens of just 3.5 square metres. Yeltsin commented: "We have many corpulent women in our country these days. If such a woman enters the kitchen, there is no room left for her husband."

Shopping is a grave problem for Moscow because of the permanent shortage of goods. This is further aggravated by the two to three million visitors a day from other parts of the country who join the battle for scarce goods from Moscow's outlets.

The absurdities inherent in the Soviet economy hamper even top priority goals such as Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's campaign against alcoholism. Yeltsin pointed out that the production of super-strong wines with artificially added alcohol had been stopped, but the production of the slightly less strong, but still alcohol-reinforced wines was not. Only their sale in Moscow was banned. The result has been the swamping of Moscow's surrounding regions with fortified wine.

Even in Moscow, the success of the anti-alcohol campaign is less than meets the eye. Much of the drinking switched from public places

to private homes and it is no accident that the number of crimes committed in private flats has increased.

Some functionaries of the Moscow party committee have suddenly developed a liking for official trips abroad, for while alcohol is banned from official receptions in Moscow, it is not in other countries.

Drug consumption, too, is another problem presently worrying the authorities.

Meanwhile, the Moscow Underground, the backbone of the city's vast public transport system, is fighting an uphill battle. Sixty kilometres of track are still to be completed.

while the system is also very short of train drivers. The equipment too is worn down. In 1985 alone, 2,000 technical failures were registered, and in that year the underground ran its first ever deficit.

EVEN OUTSIDE observers know that the present problems are a consequence of prolonged neglect. This is also true of Moscow's historical face. Yeltsin revealed that 2,200 major historical buildings have been destroyed since 1935. Many others are in a lamentable condition or are being put to the wrong uses. Only after Yeltsin's intervention did the Soviet Ministry of Energy agree to

move one of its offices from the former church in which Russia's greatest poet, Alexander Pushkin, was married.

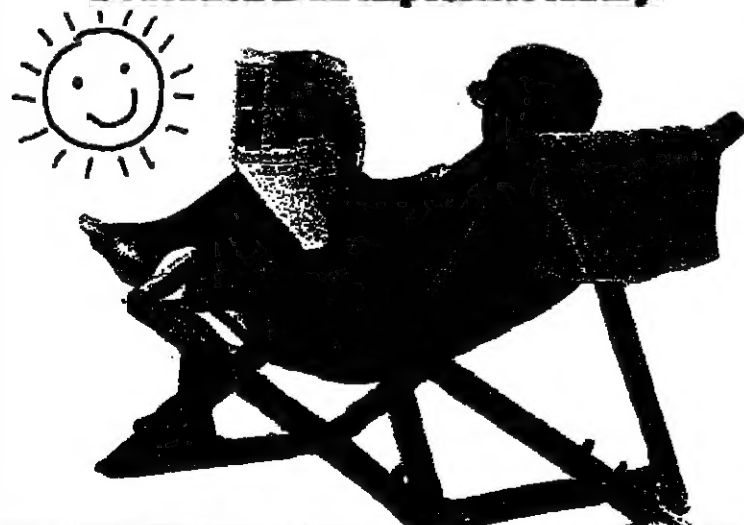
The per capita capital investment in Moscow scored only a poor 44th among Soviet cities in 1985, down from 12th position in 1975 and fifth in 1965. Moscow's industry is more obsolete than the national average. Its per capita construction of new housing last year was only the 58th highest in the Soviet Union, down from second place in 1975. The number of burglaries is high and the police are incapable of solving the problem.

There is a plan, however, to turn Moscow into "a model Communist city." The present city leadership intends to cut down on "parasitism,"

corruption and bureaucracy. Thus, the number of departments at the city's party committee has been reduced from seven to six and the exclusive shop which supplied manufactured goods to the committee's workers has been closed. Working hours have been increased, while a campaign against the committee's workers holding second jobs, sometimes even during their regular work hours, has begun.

Not everybody in the city seems convinced that the new broom will sweep Moscow clean. Yeltsin himself quoted a letter which he had received from a resident of the Soviet capital: Krushchev, too, wanted to dress all of us in work parkas, but he failed as you will. We were stealing in the past and will go on stealing in the future."

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PLEASE, GIVE GENEROUSLY.

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"FORSAKE ME NOT"

Soviet conspiracy trials of '30s remain very delicate subject

Tony Barber
Moscow

FIFTY YEARS ago, two leading Bolshevik revolutionaries were tried and executed in a case which astonished the world and is still a highly sensitive subject for Soviet authorities.

Lev Kamenev and Grigory Zinoviev, two close colleagues of Vladimir Lenin, founder of the Soviet state, were shot after they confessed in public to having conspired to murder almost the entire Soviet leadership.

Their trial heralded the start of the "Great Purges," in which Josef Stalin wiped out party officials across the entire country, decimated the Red Army command and sent millions of ordinary people to prison and labour camps.

Western historians do not doubt that the charges against Kamenev, Zinoviev and other old Bolsheviks such as Karl Radek and Nikolai Bukharin were fraudulent and their confessions were obtained under duress.

Soviet historians hinted as much during the rule of Nikita Khrushchev, who denounced Stalin as a tyrant in 1956. But now the purges are a closed book, referred to obliquely as "errors" and "violations of socialist legality."

The official argument is that even

if the methods used against Bukharin and the others were somewhat excessive, the old Bolsheviks were opponents of the correct Communist Party line of the day.

In the case of Bukharin, Stalin's chief opponent who was tried and shot in 1938, party officials told his family in the 1970s that he could not be posthumously rehabilitated because the charges against him still stood.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who often calls for more frankness in public life, has given no hint that he intends to reopen the question of the purges.

Some small signs have appeared to suggest that even if a denunciation of the trials of 1936-38 is out of the question, the broader question of Stalin's repressions may receive more critical treatment.

RECENTLY, two professors of history wrote in the party daily *Pravda* that a new history of the party was needed and should include franker discussions of "the cult of personality" — a euphemism for Stalin's rule. In the cultural world, where a mild "thaw" has been taking place, an official commission has been set up into the work of Osip Mandelstam, one of the major Russian poets of the 20th century, who died in captivity under Stalin.

The Moscow trials, however, are a different matter. To say it was wrong to try Bukharin would be to raise the possibility

that his views, particularly his opposition to Stalin's crash industrialization and forced collectivization of farms, had some merit.

That in turn would imply a reassessment of collectivization and the famine which it provoked — something the party has avoided because the heavy industries and collective farms built up under Stalin are still central to the Soviet system.

When the trial of Kamenev, Zinoviev and 14 others began in a former tsarist ballroom in Moscow on August 19, 1936, many foreign observers thought it incredible that two senior colleagues of Lenin could confess to such enormous crimes.

THEY SAID they had organized the murder in 1934 of Sergei Kirov, a high-ranking party leader, and had conspired to kill Stalin and several of his associates such as Kliment Voroshilov, Lazar Kaganovich and Andrei Zhdanov.

Prosecutor Andrei Vyshinsky announced on August 21 that the evidence had incriminated Bukharin, the former trade union leader Mikhail Tomsky and others. Tomsky committed suicide the next day.

All 16 accused were found guilty on August 24 and executed a few days later. Radek and heavy industry organizer Grigory Pyatakov went on trial in January 1937 and Bukharin, ex-premier Alexei Rykov and the former security police chief Genrikh Yagoda in March 1938. (Reuters)

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Ryan rejoins Houston's roster in style

NEW YORK (AP). — Nolan Ryan, somewhat apprehensive about his first start since coming off the disabled list, showed the Los Angeles Dodgers on Tuesday night that he is ready to help the Houston Astros in their quest for the National League West crown.

Ryan pitched 5 1/2 innings of no-hit baseball. And Jose Cruz hit a two-run second-inning triple to lead the Astros to a 3-0 victory over the Dodgers.

Ryan, 37, walked two batters and left after six innings with a two-hitter and didn't allow a hit until Steve Sax looped a single to shallow left field with one out in the sixth.

Philips 3, Mets 1
A two-run third-inning triple by Von Hayes and the six-hit pitching of Kevin Gross led the Philadelphia Phillies to a 3-1 victory over New York.

Expos 10, Cardinals 3
Expos rookie Bob Sebra pitched his first career complete game and Andre Dawson and Tim Lincecum drove in four runs each as Montreal routed St. Louis 10-3.

Padres 4, Braves 3
Bruce Bochy hit a two-run double in a three-run seventh inning to break up a scoreless pitching duel between Lamar Hoyt and Zane Smith, as the San Diego Padres hung on to defeat the Atlanta Braves 4-3.

Giants 2, Reds 1
An error by rookie shortstop Kurt Stillwell on Dan Gladden's bases-loaded grounder led in the go-ahead run in the sixth inning, and the San Francisco Giants made it stand up for a 2-1 victory over the Cincinnati Reds.

Cubs 3, Pirates 1
Leon Durham hit his 12th homer to break a fifth-inning tie and drove in the insurance run in an inning later, and Lee Smith picked up his 22nd save with two innings of shutout



AGING DEBUTANT. — Veteran pitcher Steve Carlton (left), 41, makes his American League debut with the Chicago White Sox against the disrespectful Detroit Tigers, while the Cubs' Keith Moreland scores on a Jody Davis hit way ahead of the throw to Pirates catcher Tony Pena.

relief as the Chicago Cubs beat Pittsburgh 3-1.
Tigers 7, White Sox 3
Steve Carlton's American League debut wound up a loss as Mike Heath and Chet Lemon homered and the Detroit Tigers defeated the Chicago White Sox 7-3. Carlton, 41, was signed off waivers about three hours before the game. But the Tigers hammered him, scoring six runs on seven hits in his three innings.

Royals 5, Red Sox 1, and
Royals 6, Red Sox 5
Jorge Orta hit a two-run homer in a three-run sixth inning that lifted the Kansas City Royals to a 6-5



victory over the Boston Red Sox and a sweep of a two-night doubleheader. Frank White doubled in three runs and Darryl Motley doubled in two as the Royals took the opener 5-1. The start of the doubleheader was delayed one hour and 12 minutes by rain.

Blue Jays 3, Orioles 0
Jesse Barfield took the American League lead with his 29th homer while driving in three runs and Jim Clancy pitched a four-hitter as the Toronto Blue Jays defeated Baltimore 3-0.

Yankees 6, Indians 4
Rickey Henderson, Don Mattingly and Mike Easler hit solo home



runs, powering the Yankees past Cleveland 6-4. Henderson led off the Yankees' first inning with his 21st homer of the season. One out later, Mattingly homered, also his 21st.

Brewers 7, Rangers 2
Glenn Braggs homered twice and Robin Yount's two-run single highlighted a five-run second inning as Milwaukee beat Texas comfortably.

Braggs, called up from the minors after the all-star break, hit his second and third Major-League homers for the Brewers' last two runs.

A's 3, Mariners 2
Mike Davis' right ankle felt a lot better after his game-winning 10th inning homer for the Oakland A's

than it did a couple of innings earlier when he twisted it trying to beat out a grounder. Oakland's 3-2 victory over the Mariners had plenty of other high and low moments, in which Seattle pulled off a triple play, had two homers and excellent pitching.

Angels 5, Twins 4
Doug Decinces singled over a five-man infield with the bases loaded in the 12th inning, lifting California to a slender victory over Minnesota.

AMERICAN LEAGUE EAST				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boston	65	47	.580	
New York	61	53	.534	4
Detroit	61	53	.534	4
Baltimore	60	53	.531	5
Toronto	60	53	.531	5
Cleveland	58	55	.512	6
Minnesota	56	56	.500	8

WEST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
California	62	51	.549	
Kansas City	51	62	.451	11
Chicago	50	61	.450	11
Oakland	49	62	.443	12
Minnesota	49	64	.438	13
Seattle	49	66	.426	14

TUESDAY'S GAMES: Oakland 3, Seattle 2, 10 innings; Kansas City 5, Boston 1, 1st game; Kansas City 6, Boston 5, 2nd game; New York 6, Cleveland 4, Detroit 7, Chicago 3, Toronto 3, Baltimore 8; Milwaukee 7, Texas 2, California 5, Minnesota 4.

NATIONAL LEAGUE EAST				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	75	36	.676	
Montreal	66	53	.554	9
Philadelphia	65	53	.551	10
St. Louis	54	57	.488	21
Chicago	49	63	.438	26
Pittsburgh	45	65	.409	30

WEST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	63	49	.563	
San Francisco	60	53	.531	3
Los Angeles	55	57	.491	8
San Diego	53	59	.472	10
San Francisco	52	59	.468	10
Atlanta	52	60	.464	11

TUESDAY'S GAMES: Chicago 3, Pittsburgh 1; Montreal 10, St. Louis 3; Philadelphia 3, New York 1; San Francisco 2, Cincinnati 1; San Diego 4, Atlanta 3; Houston 3, Los Angeles 6.

SCOREBOARD

TENNIS. — Top seeds Martina Navratilova and Chris Evert Lloyd sailed into the third round of the \$250,000 Los Angeles Women's Tennis Tournament with straight set victories. Navratilova, the number one seed, beat Debbie Spooner 6-4, 6-1, and Evert Lloyd overcame Elise Burgin 6-4, 6-2 in all-American matches to lead an advance of seeds.

In Toronto, American Tim Wilkerson ground out a 6-3, 5-7, 6-3 victory over Guy Forget of France in the first round of the \$250,000 Player's International Tennis Tournament.

Wilkerson's next opponent in the week-long tournament which offers a top prize of \$51,000 will be India's Vijay Amarnath, who downed American Jimmy Brown 6-4, 6-1, 6-3.

In other matches, ninth-seeded Jakob Hlasek of Switzerland advanced with a 7-5, 7-5 victory over American Jerry Rive and Kevin Carraway, seeded 15th, had little trouble disposing of fellow American Mike Leach 6-2, 6-4 in a battle of big servers.

The race was the fifth and longest stage of the Coors International Bicycle Classic.

SOCER. — Brazil are the surprise leaders of the French First Division after a 4-0 away win over Nancy while champions Paris St. Germain dropped their first point in three games in a 0-0 draw at home to Metz.

RUGBY UNION. — Australia scored 10 tries as they secured a 62-0 victory against lowly Brierley province in the latest match of their New Zealand tour.

Top seeds advance

The third tournament in the Hirschfeld International Junior Tennis Circuit started in Jerusalem yesterday with both top seeds, Miki Markovitz of Holland and Stefan Schneider of West Germany advancing through to the quarter-finals.

Also advancing were local Segal Horowitz, Danny Shoshani, Yossi Asch, Moshe Leshetzky and Yoram Karasik.

The eighth quarter for the quarter-finals was South African Yonatan Ron, who defeated Israeli Fabian Lipkowitz in three exciting sets 4-6, 7-6, 6-3.

UJA INFORMATION CENTRE, 1 Ibn Gabirol St., Rehavia, Jerusalem. Features TV news programmes from the U.S., contact A.P. News telefax, videotapes on UJA (United Jewish Appeal) sponsored programmes in Israel. Open Sunday-Thursday, 3:00-7:00 p.m. For more information call 02-248465, 02-240795.

TEL AVIV
MUSEUMS
TEL AVIV MUSEUM. Exhibitions: Israeli Summer, new and enlarged Israeli Art Collection Selection © Edward Munch, prints: Death, Love and Anxiety. © Print into Print, works by six Israeli artists. © Frank Stella-Had Gadi. Series of prints after El Lissitzky. © The Museum's collection of Classical, impressionist, Post-impressionist and contemporary art. Visiting hours: Sun-Thur, 10-5; Fri, 10-4; Sat, 11-2; Fri. closed. Helena Rubinstein Pavilion: Adolf Loos, Architecture and Design. Sun-Thur, 10-1; Fri, 10-4; Sat, 11-2; Fri. closed.

BETH HATEFUTSOH, Klausner St., Ramat Aviv. Tel. 03-425181. Buses No. 13, 24, 25, 27, 45, 48, 74, 75, 274, 572. Permanent Exhibit and Chronosphere - 2500 years of Jewish Life in the Diaspora © From Carthage to Jerusalem - the Jewish Community of Tunis © Passage Through China - the Jewish Communities of Harbin, Tientsin and Shanghai.

Visiting hours: 10-5. At 11: Guided tour of the Museum in English. 11: Guided tour of Archaeological Museum in English. 11: Poetry hour for children 4-6 with Yehudit Amir. 3: Guided tour of Judaica and Heritage galleries.

LA MAYER MUSEUM FOR ISLAMIC ART. Visiting hours: Sun-Thurs, 10-1; 3:30-6; Fri. closed. Sat. and holiday even 10-12. Hapalmach St., Tel. 02-6129172. Bus No. 15.

Exhibitions
JERUSALEM MAP HOUSE, Old City, 7 Beit El St., 288338, 423547. Roberts, Turner, etc.

Conducted Tours
HADASSAH - Hourly tours of the Chagall Windows at Kiryat Hadassah on the half hour. * Information, reservations: 02-416333, 02-448271. No tours today, Tisha Be'Av.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY
There will be no tours of the Hebrew University campus today, Tisha Be'Av.

AMIT WOMEN (formerly American Mizrahi Women). Free Morning Tours - Tel. 02-221571, 223154.

WIZO. To visit our projects call Tel Aviv, 223235; Jerusalem, 226060; Haifa, 88817.

PIONEER WOMEN - NA'AMAT. Morning tours. Tel. Aviv, 210791. Jerusalem 244878.

HADASSAH VISITORS DEPT. Astor Hotel, Room 01. 105 Hayarkon St., Tel. 02-223141.

HAIFA
MUSEUMS
HAIFA MUSEUM. 26 Shabbat Lev St. Tel. 04-522555. Exhibitions: Modern Art - The Hasid and the Cool in Israel. Ancient Art - Jewish coins of the Second Temple Period, Egyptian textiles, terracotta figurines, Shilohana finds. Open: Sun-Thur and Sat, 10-1; Tue, Thur and Sat, also 8-9. Ticket also admits to National Museum.

Prehistoric and Japanese Museums.

WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-640440.

SWIMMING: World Championships

East v. West in Madrid

MADRID (Reuters). — Towering West German Michael Gross leads a 2,000-strong cast of swimmers from East and West, kept apart by successive Olympic boycotts, contest the World Swimming Championships which opened here yesterday.

Gross and champions of the calibre of U.S. sprint king Matt Biondi and supreme Soviet stylist Vladimir Salnikov, guarantee excitement in the 10 days of competition in a brand-new championships pool.

The swimmers enter the arena Sunday, the poolside to their appearance provided by the synchronized swimming competition, water polo and diving.

More than 60 nations are taking part in these 8th World Championships as an event inaugurated in 1973 when the East German women made their spectacular world-beating breakthrough in Belgrade, and last contested in Garmisch, Ecuador, in 1962.

Successive Olympic boycotts, which kept the Americans away from Moscow in 1980 and most of the Soviet bloc away from Los

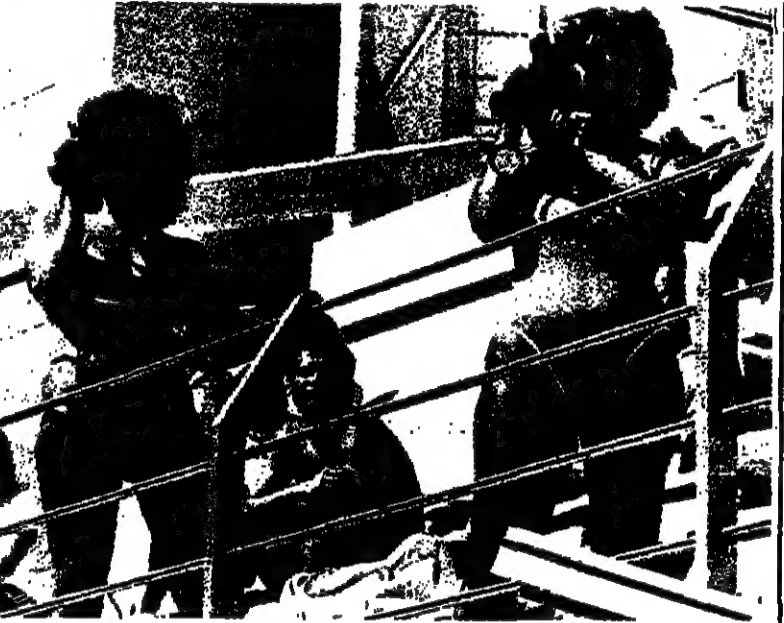
Angeles four years later, have given the World Championships an extra edge as the one East-West swimming summit of the 1980s.

It accounts for the continued presence of Salnikov, who had planned to quit after the Los Angeles Games but changed his mind after the boycott denied him a chance of winning the Olympic 400 and 1,500 metres titles a third time.

Salnikov, a veteran at 26 in the youthful world of swimming, now attempts an equally astonishing World Championship treble following his triumphs over both distances in 1978 and 1982.

In the 16-nation men's water polo competition, Israel are grouped with Italy, hosts Spain, and Hungary who, along with the Soviet Union, are heavily favoured to win the event.

Also representing Israel are two swimmers, Segev Porath and Eyal Steigman.



SPIES LIKE US. — Italy's two synchronized swimming coaches, Silvia Trombetta (right) and Speroni Simonetti (left), are hard at work video-taping their rivals' training sessions prior to this week's competition at the World Swimming Championship. (Reuters/telephoto)

British teams banned from Dutch pre-season tourney

AMSTERDAM (AP). — British soccer teams have been banned from future competition in Amsterdam's pre-season 71 soccer tournament because of British fan violence surrounding last weekend's tournament, the event's organizers have announced.

"They (the British fans) haven't learned anything from the Heysel catastrophe," said organizer Jack van Zanten. "We were shocked by the scope and size of the riots."

"We've decided not to invite them (British teams) any more without mentioning when they would be welcome again," van Zanten said.

The ban on British teams followed four incidents of violence on North Sea ferries and in the Dutch capital.

CRICKET

Essex creep up on Gloucester

LONDON (Reuters). — Essex, the 1984 county cricket champions, narrowed the gap on leaders Gloucestershire to 19 points with a 130 run win over Leicester on Tuesday evening.

England reject Neil Foster took five wickets, his ninth five-wicket haul of the season, as Leicester, chasing 321 to win, were skittled out for 190.

Essex beat Leicester by 130 runs. Middlesex beat Gloucester by 184 runs. Worcestershire v. Surrey - Match Drawn. Somerset v. Yorkshire - Match Drawn. Northamptonshire v. Somerset - Match Drawn.

Derbyshire v. Lancashire - Match Drawn. Warwickshire v. Kent - Match Drawn. Hampshire v. Sussex - Match Drawn.

Second Programme
6.12 Moving music
7.07 Morning in Easy Hebrew
11.30 Education for all
12.05 My Eyes Watch
13.00 News in English
13.30 News in French
14.00 Children's programmes
15.00 Radio Drama
16.00 Radio Story
16.30 Hebrew songs
17.20 Everyman's University
18.00 Comfort
18.50 Bible Reading
19.05 Tales of the Destruction
19.30 Programmes for Olim
22.05 Castles in Spain

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Israel must pay or play Rosh Hashana

TEL AVIV. — The International Tennis Federation's European Zone Davis Cup sub-committee yesterday informed the Israel Tennis Association by telex that the federation had "reluctantly" agreed with the Swiss Tennis Association's demands that it should be paid \$15,000 in compensation by Israel for agreeing to change the scheduled date of the European Zone "B" final in Zurich between the two countries.

ITA chairman David Harnik told me yesterday that Davis Cup men's tennis director Thomas Hallberg felt that Switzerland's financial demands were "fair and reasonable".

Hallberg added that, if Israel did not respond positively to the Swiss conditions, the tie would have to be

held from October 3-5 as originally scheduled.

The ITA presidium will hold an emergency meeting this evening to decide on its response to the Swiss demands, Harnik said. "I am very unhappy about the ITF's ruling. It forces us to choose between two bad alternatives, but the Federation's decision is binding on us."

Harnik added pointedly: "I hope that all the bodies which have put pressure on us not to play on Rosh Hashana, will now come up with the sum demanded by the Swiss, to enable to hold the tie from October 1-3." The ITA chairman listed these bodies as the Prime Minister's Office, the Israel Foreign Ministry, the Government Sports Authority, and the Swiss Chief Rabbi.

From the dressing room

The Zahi Affair

By PHILIP GILLON

The Israeli soccer world is still rocking after the announcement by Zahi Arneli that he is leaving Maccabi Haifa for Hapoel Tel Aviv. Many people in Haifa, including Shlomo Sharf, believe that in the end the coveted striker will see the light and will remain true to the team that made him famous.

Like anybody seeking a divorce, he has to overcome several legal hurdles before he can get free from Maccabi Haifa. There is a clause in the contract negotiated between him, Maccabi Haifa and Maccabi Shfarim, the team that sold him to Maccabi Haifa, which specifies that he will go back to Shfarim if he ever leaves Haifa.

Furthermore, a move from a Maccabi team to a Hapoel side needs the approval of the central committee of Maccabi, and it is hard to see why Maccabi should agree to such a sale.

He - and Maccabi Haifa - are still subject to a four months suspended sentence imposed by the Israel Football Association for making a secret agreement without IFA approval, so any contract he makes with Hapoel will have to be very above board and will be scrutinized very closely.

Should the transfer go through, Hapoel will have to decide what to do with their young international striker, Gil Lavidau. It is hard to see him remaining in the team with Arneli. Several teams want him very badly.

If Maccabi Haifa agree to let Arneli go, they should have plenty of cash to spare, to look for a new striker. They already have acquired an attacking midfielder, Daniel

"Pinny" Brilovsky, the Argentinian, but he really replaces Ronnie Rosenthal, sold to Bruges for \$270,000. There are rumours that Haifa will not search for a striker after all, but will bid for Betar Jerusalem's non-player, Uri Malimilim. The talk is that Uri has offered to pay Betar Jerusalem \$200,000 in cash within 48 hours of their agreeing to release him.

Playing for Bruges against Sporting Lisbon over the week-end, Rosenthal burst into the penalty area and was fouled there. A penalty was awarded in his team. The spot kick was taken by another player, who scored. Although Bruges lost 2-1, the Belgian papers wrote highly about Rosenthal's performance.

Another player doing well abroad is Mosti (winger for Rude in Holland). He was put into a game against Vento in the 66th minute, when his team was leading 3-0. Twenty minutes later, he received a pass 25 m. out, passed one defender and nailed a very pretty goal into the corner of the net.

Culogus are still trying to induce David Pizant to remain with them, instead of going to Queen's Park Rangers. On Friday, he will play for them in the Bundesliga against Frankfurt. Culogus think highly of his game, but the problem is that he has acquired Tony Woodcock and Moritz Obern, German teams are only allowed to play two foreign players in a game, so Pizant faces an era of being on the reserves bench. He does not relish the prospect.

Oded Machness, of Maccabi Petah Tikva, formerly on Maccabi Netanya in that team's great days, will almost certainly end up with Maccabi Tel Aviv. He joined the Tel Avivians in their training camp in West Germany.

Maccabi Tel Aviv are being very churlish about Avi Cohen's plea that they should facilitate his transfer to Glasgow Rangers. He is sulking because of their attitude. In the end, they will probably do the decent thing and give him a second chance in the big league.

Inflation fight: Why Argentina failed

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter

Inflation rates in foreign countries are usually only of theoretical interest to Israeli decision makers. The case of Argentina is different, however. The news that Argentina's consumer prices jumped by 6.8 per cent in July should cause warning lights to go on in Israel.

Argentina's recovery programme, the Plan Austral, was considered the twin of Israel's own economic stabilization programme launched in July 1985. Both are based on the same principles and, indeed, the Argentinian plan was launched just two weeks ahead of its Israeli counterpart. Brazil, which launched its own stabilization scheme, based on a wage-price-rate of exchange freeze, is also experiencing formidable problems.

Compared to the fate of the Plan Austral, Israel's economic stabiliza-

tion programme has performed very well. In fact in Argentina inflation so far this year has reached 33.3 per cent, topping the 28 per cent estimate for the whole year that had been included in the national budget.

Following the announcement Monday of the inflation rate for July, Argentina was hit by speculation in the financial and stock markets, amidst rumours that a 10 per cent devaluation was imminent. "The spectre of inflation has returned," declared *La Razon*, a Buenos Aires daily, in a front-page headline.

Israeli officials familiar with the situation in Argentina say the main difference between the results of the two plans is the Israeli Treasury's success in keeping wage increases at bay. "Our test was the nurses' strike, and so far we have passed it," one official said. The Treasury wants to add budget restraint to that success.

It was by a combination of wage increases, excessive government spending and poorly timed abandonment of price controls that Argentinian inflation soared by levels not seen since July 1985. Commerce Secretary officials responded by imposing price controls Monday as top economic policy officials blamed rising consumer demand and a partial price thaw in April for the problem.

Another difference between Israel and Argentina is their respective exchange rates. The Argentine currency, the austral, was traded at an official rate of 0.80 australs to the dollar when the plan was launched a year ago and remained fixed for almost a year. But after a series of devaluations in the rate of exchange the rate now stands at 0.95 australs to the dollar. Without the anchor of a stable exchange rate, Argentina's consumer price index was free to take off.

According to Saul Ubaldini, the

head of Argentina's labour federation, the Confederacion General del Trabajo, the latest inflation figures jeopardize the social peace that the government had tried to impose. The sharp rise in inflation "broke all structures," he said. Two days later, and far away from Argentina, Israeli Finance Minister Moshe Nissim and Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar agreed to continue price and exchange rate stability, in return for a wage accord which will apparently be in line with the Treasury's plans.

In Brazil, the problems for the economic plan are also mounting. Long queues have appeared outside food stores, and shortages of goods appear to be a daily affair. Last February the government introduced a price freeze that cut the inflation rate dead in its tracks, but that, coupled with higher wages, led to a spending spree. Private consumption rose by 25 per cent above last year's level.

Thus, producers have been unable to keep up with demand, and many sectors, among them beef and dairy farmers, have withheld supplies. The government has so far responded by mounting extensive search operations for illegal stocks and, by importing large amounts of frozen meat, attempting to break the ranchers' stranglehold.

As their Israeli counterparts, Brazilian industrialists are staging a major campaign to lift price controls. According to the Sao Paulo Industry Association head, Luis Eulalio de Bueno Vidigal, if price controls are not lifted, industry will soon be faced with serious problems.

The lessons from both the Brazilian and the Argentinian cases are relatively simple. There is no alternative for the policy of stable rates of exchange accompanied by a national agreement on wages and prices. That road has led to stability. It should be adhered to.

Advertising men await fruits of consumer boom

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

After a period of belt-tightening and doubts about how the economic stabilization programme would turn out, advertising circles say, the average Israeli lives for today, he does not wait nor save nor think about tomorrow.

"Why should I plan for the next five years, says the average Israeli, and buys the television set today. This is a concept of life. That's why the great migration abroad every year, that's why the fear of saving," says David Tamir, of Winner Jacobson Tamir Advertising Ltd., one of the industry leaders. "There is cynicism about the future. People who saved dollars under the floor dies found that they went down in value over the years. People who saved in the bank lost their savings in the bank share collapse. So let's go abroad, they say. Let's buy a new car. The dollar is no longer safe, so let's spend what we have." This is the kind of attitude the advertising industry should thrive on.

But advertising executives are divided as to whether the industry itself has gained much from the upswing in consumer spending. Bronshten Thau, general manager of the Advertisers Association, notes that ad spending, while up from the depressed levels of 1984 and 1985, are still low. He says it will amount to \$230 million to \$240m. this year.

Other ad executives say, however, that business is booming for them. "The last three months have been the best we've ever had, even better income-wise than in the Aridor period," says Tamir. Former finance

minister Yoram Aridor, who in 1983-84 led a consumer boom by cutting tax and encouraging spending, gave Israeli advertising its best year ever, with \$269m. in billings, according to the Advertisers Association.

Avner Barel of Keshet Barel, another leading agency, who represents, among others, First International Bank, Danish Interiors, Tadiran, Budweiser and Kitan, says business is so brisk that it is virtually impossible to buy air time on radio. Ronnie Arieli of Arieli Advertising Ltd. accounts for the discrepancy between overall ad spending, which is not terribly high, and the strong business reported by many individual agencies, in part at least to the tough competition between newspapers.

The papers have been cutting rates in a bid to lure advertisers. "For instance, what you could get last year for \$500,000, you can get today for \$250,000," he explains. "When you think of it, not that much more money has been spent on advertising than last year."

Ya'acov Franco, who describes his own agency as "medium-small," notes that advertising budgets are not as high as before 1984, or during the days of former finance minister Yoram Aridor. Much of the increased spending has been devoted to advertising products that are not new, but had not been advertised before, such as Turtle Wax. Bathing suits, which were previously largely out of the advertising world, made their debut last summer and are now a familiar fixture of outdoor advertising.



Shopping Spree: Consumers are buying, but are advertisers advertising? (Israel Talby)

Whether the advertising industry is benefiting much from it or not, there is no denying that a consumer spending boom is under way. Private consumption per capita grew 1.8 per cent in the first quarter of this year, while spending on all major consumer durables has risen sharply, according to figures prepared by the Bank of Israel and Central Bureau of Statistics.

According to other bureau statistics, the top 10 per cent of Israelis in terms of income is responsible for 40 per cent of the major purchases, such as apartments, cars, refrigerators and trips abroad. Although this income group tends to be the least

affected by downturns in the economy, it tends to cut back on spending when times are bad to avoid overly conspicuous consumption, Tamir says. Although problems, such as unemployment in development townships, persist, upper-income groups have begun to buy again.

And other levels of society are following suit. "Try driving through Tel Aviv on Saturday night. It's impossible," Tamir says. "All the streets are jammed with cars, every restaurant is packed with diners. These are not the rich, these are the middle classes. And they're not badly off. Look at their cars, look at the

new microwave oven we started advertising recently - it was bought up hysterically. A four-month supply ended in one month. People are afraid of holding onto their money. The dollar is going down," Tamir says.

The public has billions of black dollars stashed away which they must get rid of. That's why trips abroad are so common, Tamir suggests, as are large purchases as cars or apartments.

Arieli attributes part of the consumer boom to the seeming worthlessness of the new shekel. "People don't think that three shekels are really worth two dollars. What's 10 shekels? Now 10,000 [in old shekels] seem a much more considerable amount." Perhaps it also has to do with the mentality of "live for today." I ask myself, where does all the money come from? Perhaps people saved for a year, tightened their belt, and now want to enjoy themselves.

However, Tamir and other advertising executives warn against the notion that advertising increases consumption. It merely influences one's buying choice, creating a preference for one product over another, they stress. None could say how long the spending boom could last nor whether the ad industry could expect to benefit from it. Thau, of the Advertisers Association, noted that the old saw that when the consumer catches a cold, the advertising business gets pneumonia does not always hold true. When spending is strong, many advertisers take the view there is no need to advertise.

(Second in series.)

THE TAX BURDEN/Jeff Broide

Supreme Court says keep books in order

The Supreme Court, some years ago, handed down two rulings concerning the non-recording of receipts. Section 145 (a) (1) of the Income Tax Ordinance stipulates that when the taxpayer fails to record income as required, then his accounts are inadmissible unless the assessing officer is convinced that there was reasonable cause for omission.

Until the Supreme Court ruling, judges were of the opinion that the law intended to create an administrative framework for the prevention of forgetfulness, neglect or carelessness in recording income. They believed that law was concerned that if such income were not recorded soon after its receipt, it would never be. Thus judges ruled that the absence of an intent to conceal income provided a prima facie case for not disqualifying the books, even if the books did not record all income.

But the Supreme Court ruled that lack of intent to conceal income cannot excuse bad bookkeeping. The test is that of the "reasonable person": How would the reasonable taxpayer have acted in similar cir-

cumstances? The Supreme Court stipulated that the taxpayer bears responsibility for meeting the requirements of the law. The taxpayer must take account of the possibility of abnormal conditions, such as work pressures, illness and military service, and plan accordingly. Finally, the court said that proper records are part and parcel of correct bookkeeping. The recording of an amount received on a piece of paper, instead of on a properly printed receipt or on a cash register roll, is fundamentally defective. The Income Tax Ordinance applies only to residents of the administered territories who are Israeli citizens and to Israeli companies (Section 3A). Therefore, special provisions governing the withholding of taxes at source on payments to residents of these areas were promulgated by the military government. These laws obligate the deduction of tax at source on the following payments. The table below provides the rates. The writer is a certified public accountant (Israel). Questions may be addressed to him c/o The Jerusalem Post.

TAXES IN THE TERRITORIES

Nature of payment	Withholding Tax Rate %
When the work is performed in Israel or payment is made in Israel for goods or services	30.0
When the work is performed outside Israel (over the Green Line), or paid for outside Israel:	
a. for services, lectures, contract work or sub-contracting	20.0
b. for goods	2.0
c. insurance commission due to residency in the Gaza Strip	7.5
d. for agricultural work (20% if proper books of account are kept and proper returns submitted.)	30.0
e. for agricultural produce (5% if proper books of account are kept and proper returns submitted.)	15.0

Jewelry experts say, diamonds are forever

BRUSSELS (AFP). - Germanium ingots and zircon stones for which a world market has been created here, could never replace gold and diamonds, whose prices are increasing tremendously along with platinum, according to experts.

The soaring prices might well start dealers in germanium and zircons to laud the value of investing in these relatively unknown, strangely named, items.

The zircon is often described as a man-made diamond, and has all the outward appearance and qualities of a gem diamond.

But it is not one, and sells at only one-hundredth of the price. Nevertheless, it has managed to obtain a share of the world jewelry market, overcoming initial hostility from powerful Antwerp diamond dealers.

The Belgian manufacturers of germanium, the biggest producers in the world, do not hesitate to admit that this metal can never replace gold - despite a recent publicity campaign.

Advertisements appeared in other European countries, announcing that investment in germanium ingots was highly profitable, as prices were guaranteed to leap by 30 per cent.

The Paris daily *Tribune de l'Economie* recently carried an advertisement claiming that the price for a kilo of germanium had risen in the nine months to May 1986 from

\$1,900 to \$2,076, equivalent to an annual increase of 12 per cent.

But Alex Courcier, an expert who works for the world's largest germanium manufacturer, Metallurgie Hoboken Overpelt (MHO), has denied this.

He pointed out that since 1982 the official price had remained stable at \$930 a kilo, with a slight tendency to dip. In other words, half the price claimed in the sales publicity.

The reason is that there is no excess demand over supply, and if this were the case, then production could easily be increased.

An MHO director pointed out that germanium does have certain special advantages for jewelers, and that it was used in infra-red rifle sights for night operations as well as for certain medical equipment.

The gold market on average handles about 1,500 tons annually, compared with 80 tons of germanium.

Mark van Bockstael, an expert in precious gems, admitted that originally jewelers were hostile to the zircon, because they feared its competition.

"Magnificent zircons, shining like real diamonds, can be produced - but even so, a professional knows them for what they are."

The prestigious Specktaert Jewelers in Old Brussels pointed out that "a one-carat diamond ring set in gold costs \$6,700, while a zircon costs a mere \$300."

WORLD BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Sales data show further slackness in U.S. economy

NEW YORK (Reuter). - A fractional improvement in U.S. retail sales in July is further evidence of a tepid economy and underscores the need for more interest rate declines, economists said.

"The report calls into question whether the U.S. can maintain positive growth rates without additional stimulus," said Elizabeth Reiners of Dean Witter Reynolds.

The Commerce Department reported retail sales increased 0.1 per cent in July, which was within the range of expectations. But this was offset by a downward revision for June sales to a 0.1 per cent decline from the 0.2 per cent increase reported earlier.

The July sales gain was spearheaded by rises in sales of building materials, department stores and furniture - all connected to the recent boom in housing. But economists noted that a lot of durable goods consumption is already exhausted, as demonstrated by the hefty 1.7 per cent drop in auto sales last month, the biggest decline since March.

THE SOVIET UNION FACES a collapse in its hard currency earnings this year following the crash in the price of oil, its main export to the West, according to a Vienna Institute for Comparative Economic Studies forecast.

Moscow could lose \$7 billion, or one-third of its hard currency revenue, in 1986, according to the report.

Jan Stankovsky, who wrote the report, warned that things could turn out even worse for Moscow. He told

Reuters that his estimates were based on the assumption that Opec plans to slash production by 20 per cent by September would boost world prices significantly.

FIAT S.P.A. WILL COMPETE for Pentagon contracts through a new U.S. subsidiary, the U.S. Department of Defense said.

An accord signed by the department and Fiat Tuesday, freed a \$7.9 million order for Fiat-Alfas tractors held up by the Pentagon in May because of a strong Libyan presence in the company.

Fiat agreed "to take the steps necessary to prevent profits earned on contracts with the Department of Defense from being paid to the Libyan Arab Foreign Investment Company, an agent of the government of Libya," the department said.

PEOPLE EXPRESS, INC., parent company of People Express Airlines, posted record losses in the second quarter this year, confirming analysts' sentiment that the company's promotion of bargain air travel has begun to threaten its survival.

The April-June deficit of \$74.5 million, or \$2.94 per share, followed a \$58 m. dollar loss in the first quarter, and was in marked contrast to the \$13.1 m. profit recorded in the second quarter last year.

MEXICO WILL GET \$1 BILLION in a loan from the Japanese state bank, Eximbank, the *Tokyo Shimbun* Daily reported yesterday. The loan would be announced when Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid visits Japan in November.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman confirmed that a loan was "possible," but declined to specify an amount.



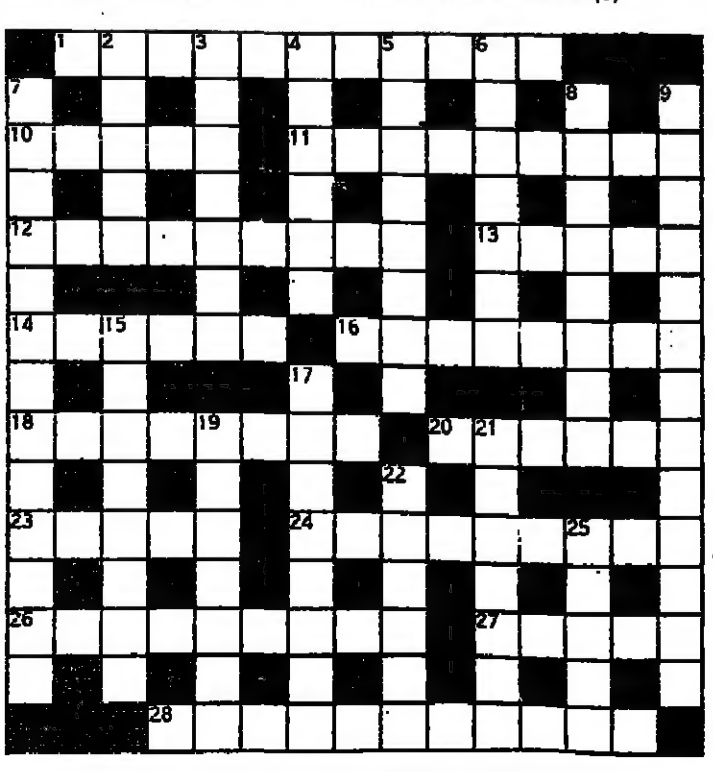
ONE-ON-ONE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Wherein you're unlikely to find sweet sleep (5-3, 3)
- One part of the dwindling population (5)
- Language translated into neat prose (9)
- Nick a pair for a classical humorist (4,5)
- Speeds through the salty water! (5)
- It's blended with a Weasdale medicinal beverage (6)
- Buoyant as Miss Oakley, say, getting her man? (9)
- Plant to give a high flier an incentive (8)
- Fine spinner out for a catch (6)
- Noted trademark recalling a Russian novelist (5)
- Garrulous in the extreme? (9)
- Where the baron also repaired for drinks... (6, 3)
- In a place providing healthy drops of water (3)
- One-time winger getting a pretty cold break (11)

DOWN

- 15 Battle of the Gas and Electricity Boards? (5, 8)
- Stretched out heavyweight near Stoke-on-Trent (7)
- The old itinerant street-seller sounds sanctimonious (6)
- Could be next Open champion, perhaps (8)
- Angular mistake in Latin translation (7)
- Specialist whose interest is purely superficial (13)
- Superfluous to a French rec, irement? (8)
- Small reward, maybe, for thoughtfulness (15)
- See 17
- Fruit nurtured on copper, carbon and a brown earthy substance (8)
- Betrayer in the open market? (4-3)
- Ancient Greek war-dance a king gets unusually chirpy about (7)
- Way a Communist looked (6)
- Not even adverbial (5)



GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Allison, 10 Yeshayahu, 222553; Baisam, Salah Eddin, 272315; Shufat, Shufat Road, 910106; Dar Al-Din, Herod's Gate, 282058.

Tel Aviv: Benny, 174 Dizengoff, 222986; Kupat Holim Clalit, 4 Heftman, 257221.

Netanya: Kupat Holim Leumi, 8 Smilansky, 38063.

Haifa: Hanassi, 33 Sderot Hanassi, 333312.

Be'er Sheva: Hadassah Ein Kerem (pediatrics, ophthalmology), Bilur Holim (internal, E.N.T.), Shearn Zadek (obstetrics, surgery, orthopedics).

Tel Aviv: Rokah (pediatrics, internal, surgery), Netanya: Laniado

POLICE 100

Dial 100 in most parts of the country. In Tiberias Dial 524444, Kiryat Shmona 4444.

FIRE 102

In emergencies dial 102. Otherwise, number of your local station is in the front of the phone directory.

QUICK CROSSWORD

1 Deputy monarch

4 Fiery particle

8 Traverse

10 Tolerant

12 Curly lock

14 Not working

15 One of the U.S.

16 Musical work

17 Sportsman

18 Feeling

19 Surpass

20 Part of a flower

21 Blue

22 Edible fungus

23 Forestalled

24 Nursery rhyme

25 Character (2-4)

26 Norseman

27 Displace

28 German submarine (1-4)

29 Account

FIRST AID 101

In emergencies dial 101 in most parts of the country. In addition:

Jerusalem: 41333 Ashlalon 23333

Jerusalem: 41333 Ashlalon 23333

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'French firms will no longer pump Libyan oil

NICOSIA. - Libyan oil will not be pumped any longer by state-owned French oil companies and French subsidiaries of international oil firms for "commercial and market" reasons, an authoritative economic publication said Monday.

The Nicosia-based *Middle East Economic Survey* said the firms "adamantly denied" that their move was due to pressure by the French government in support of President Reagan's boycott measures against Libya. The French move is the first reported by a member of the European Community against Libya in the wake of the April 15 U.S. air raids on Libya.

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MARKET
PLACE

PINHAS LANDAU

Bonds:
long-term
lessons

The poor state of the bond market has gone on too long to be dismissed as a passing phenomenon. Nor should its importance be underestimated.

Even in the context of the minuscule Tel Aviv Stock Exchange with its small daily volume, the persistence of a trend over a reasonable period of time must still be regarded as a valid market signal.

First, let us review the performance figures, as reflected in the various bond indices - while excluding the "arrangement" bank share-bonds sector because of its peculiar nature and extraordinary behavior, as discussed in Tuesday's column.

The bond market, composed of index and dollar-linked bonds, got off to a bad start this year when the January consumer price index came in at minus 1.3 per cent. Dollar bonds consistently underperformed index-linked ones, however - even then, as more and more investors became fed up with holding a security linked to something that wasn't moving - namely the shekel-dollar exchange rate. With no devaluation and negative inflation, it is no surprise to find the general bond index at 97.54 (December 31, 1985 - 100) as late as the end of February.

This overall result hides the fact that dollar-linked bonds had sunk to near the 90 mark, while index-linked bonds had fallen only slightly. But it succeeds in showing clearly the depressed state of the market in the first part of the year.

Then came a revival since the prospect of a rather latter April uptick enthused market participants. The eternally hopeful looked to the end of June as a possible termination point for the devaluation freeze.

March, therefore, saw a 5 per cent advance in bond prices, bringing the general index safely over the 100 mark. Again, however, it was the index-linked species that was running ahead, while the dollar-linked bonds languished in the 90s.

April produced only a further 2 per cent gain but by the end of May the general index was at 108.5, with most index-linked series well over the 110 level and the leaders approaching 115. Even the dollar-linked group firmed up, with the 100 mark.

The source of the boom was not a change in general economic conditions, but of market conditions. The fall in nominal shekel interest rates had reached such a point that, with bank deposits and Treasury bills yielding only 15-18 per cent annually, bonds looked attractive again, at least for longer-term investors.

Furthermore, the market for new issues promised interesting things, since the government was allowing corporate borrowers to come to market on a fairly large scale - hundreds of millions of dollars - for the first time in several years. And, once again, there was the nagging question - how long can the exchange rate freeze and the "stability" last?

Early June proved to be the height of the boom, however, as the actual arrival of the mass of new corporate paper, combined with huge borrowing by the government as part of a programme to persuade investors to move from short-term deposits to long-term bonds, inevitably depressed prices.

Because of this, the general price levels began to move up and down but basically stayed flat. On both June 15 and July 15, the general bond index was almost exactly 110, index-linked bonds were between 109 and 113, and dollar-linked bonds had fallen from 101.4 to 99.7. Interest had gone out of the market and it was ripe for the next boom.

This fell late last month - although rumours had begun to circulate earlier - dragging prices down. The shekel's move to de-link the bond from the dollar and to re-link it to a basket of currencies - coupled with the expectation of further dollar weakness on the world markets - meant that dollar-linked investments might not merely stagnate, but actually fall. It also meant that price inflation would probably be even lower - and projections for the next six to nine months were already in the 1 per cent a month region.

It was the dollar-linked sector that absorbed the main blow - apparently the index-linked market had already discounted lower inflation ahead. Prices sank steadily lower and by this Tuesday, the index of foreign currency linked bonds - almost all of which are dollar-linked - cracked the 95 mark, because index-linked bonds had recovered their initial losses.

The yield levels on Admon bonds, redeemable in 1-2 years, and of Rimon bonds with 3-5 year redemption, is between 8.5 and 10 per cent annually, while Gilboa bonds with maturities of up to ten years have yields approaching 5 per cent - a strange phenomenon, perhaps explicable by the institutional support these latter receive from dollar-linked savings schemes and provident funds.

At some point this pattern of decline may reverse sharply, an event that could be triggered by either internal or external developments. The riddle for investors is: When does that chance outweigh the clear-cut risks in buying these dollar-linked bonds?

Business group
unveils tax-cut plan

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. - A proposal to reduce the income tax rate to a maximum of 40 per cent was presented to Prime Minister Peres yesterday by Israeli Chambers of Commerce President Dan Gillerman.

Peres did not offer his opinion of the proposal, but Finance Minister Moshe Nissim is due to examine the proposal today.

The plan would eliminate taxes for incomes under NIS 750 a month, and tax income from NIS 750 to NIS 975 at a 15 per cent rate. For incomes between NIS 975 and NIS 1,276, the rate would be 20 per cent; between NIS 1,276 and NIS 2,550, 30 per cent; and above NIS 2,550 at 40 per cent.

"Without drastic tax reform, all the achievements of the economic programme will go down the drain," Gillerman told reporters.

Gillerman said the Finance Ministry had planned a 15 per cent tax reduction, to be introduced April 1 - but that the proposal had been withdrawn despite government promises.

Charging that the government had promised tax reform to the Histadrut and employers whenever it negotiated a package deal, Gillerman said the authorities had deceived the public and breached its trust.

"The tax system in Israel is one of the most complicated and awkward in the world; it has unbearable tax burdens, clumsy collection systems, distortions and discriminations, against groups and companies, extensive tax evasions, frequently changing laws and retroactive laws," Gillerman said.

Even a task force of American Jews and other business people, formed to encourage investments in the country, has postponed its plans until the tax system is examined, realizing there is no hope of growth under the present tax system, according to Gillerman.

The Chamber proposal includes a review of the present tax system's "distortions and injustices."

It also includes details of how it would be implemented.



Dan Gillerman

The reform would be financed by \$1.6 billion, comprised of \$1 billion from tax revenues in excess of projected income and by cancelling tax exemptions and loopholes - which would bring in NIS 465 million. Another NIS 300 million would be created by expected growth which would result from the tax reform - a growth that would yield even more tax revenue if the plan worked.

The reform also calls for national insurance system reform, eliminating tax differences among different sectors of the economy.

The reform would relieve the tax burden on single workers and companies without harming the state income, Gillerman claimed. Permanent tax laws would enable planning for the future and renew the public's trust in the system, he said. And it would reduce the need for vast expenditures on tax collection and reporting tax evasions, he said.

The economic growth which would result is based on a World Bank model, which surveyed the relation between income tax and economic growth and productivity in 20 countries, Gillerman said.

The plan estimates that in five years tax reform would mean an increase of \$800m. in annual investment; 16,000 more jobs than would have been created under the current tax system; a 6 per cent increase in productivity; a \$2.5b. in added growth to the gross national product and a \$600m. increase in exports.

Building workers ready for strike in September

TEL AVIV. - The Construction Workers Union has declared a labour dispute and is threatening to strike construction sites around the country in order to obtain a 25 per cent wage increase.

The strikes would begin in early September if the Contractors Association has not agreed to open negotiations by then, Union Secretary Shimon Dahan said yesterday.

Initially, the strikes would be limited to sites operated by contractors who are members of the president and the work committee of the association, Dahan said.

Attempts would be made to persuade the large number of non-unionized labourers from the occupied territories to join the strike, Dahan said. Failing that, pickets would be mounted to prevent strikebreaking. "It could become a very unpleasant struggle," Dahan said.

The construction workers were

recently awarded a 10 per cent wage hike by a joint committee consisting of representatives of the Histadrut's Trade Union Department and private sector employers. However, the contractors refused to pay, claiming serious economic problems.

"For us the 10 per cent now no longer exists," Dahan said. "We are talking about a minimum of 25 per cent."

Dahan denied that the strike would be counter-productive and

would lead to increased unemployment, given the crisis in the construction industry. "A fairer wage would lead to higher productivity," he said.

DEMAND FOR OIL in the U.S. in 1987 is expected to remain at 16.2 million barrels a day, the same as this year, the Department of Energy said.

The department's estimates were based on world crude rates reaching an average of \$13 a barrel in the third quarter this year.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Change in rules
will ease access
to gov't tourism aid

Tourism enterprises will have an easier time getting government aid, said Tourism and Justice Minister Avraham Sharir yesterday, announcing a change in regulations to encourage more investment.

Until now, investors could not get applications for government aid approved unless they first acquired land and gave the Tourism Development Authority complete plans for their ventures. This meant that investors were spending money - with no guarantee of government help.

The changes allow investors to get applications approved as soon as they acquire land. The required "tourist enterprise" status would then be granted for one year and extended when the plans are submitted.

A DISPUTE BETWEEN the Treasury and the Energy Ministry is preventing a reduction in polyethylene and heavy industrial oil prices, Israel Radio reported yesterday.

The Energy Ministry had planned to cut the price of polyethylene, used in the manufacture of plastics, by 23 per cent and the price of heavy oil for industry by 4-8 per cent tonight at midnight. However, the Treasury said the price reductions were too high, according to the report.

A KIBBUTZ TELEPHONE directory is being prepared by Golden Pages, the company which produces the country's telephone directories. The 400-page directory will be



Avraham Sharir (Ronnie Ne'eman)

distributed free to kibbutzim beginning in January. It will consist of two parts: white-coloured pages with the names and phone numbers of 50,000 kibbutz members, and yellow-coloured pages listing kibbutz industries and enterprises.

THE PRICE OF COAL imported by Israel from South Africa and the U.S. looks to be heading downwards, according to a report prepared for Energy and Infrastructure Minister Moshe Shahal.

In a major coal-import contract signed with an unidentified South African mine, Israeli negotiators won a \$6-a-ton price cut on the \$34-a-ton price it was paying in 1985. That contract alone could save Israel \$7m. alone in 1986/87, the ministry said.

In a separate contract with an unnamed American mining concern, Israel also obtained a lower price on coal that will save the country \$11m. annually, the ministry said.

Staff shortage creates backlog in Haifa tax cases

HAIFA. - About 5,500 indictments for tax offences are logged in the Haifa district attorney's office alone because there is not enough staff to prepare them for court filing, according to Justice Minister Avraham Sharir, who visited the office yesterday.

He told reporters that he intended to discuss the problem with Finance Minister Moshe Nissim, with the hope of ending the backlog immediately. He also wants to work out a long-term solution to end the clogging, he said.

"The accused owe the state millions of shekels and we need invest only a fraction of the sum to process the files for trial. In some cases, they are laid up simply for lack of typ-

ists," Sharir said.

He said he had also found a big backlog in the Haifa department dealing with land cases. Although it handles one-quarter of the state lands, it has only two attorneys to process the files.

But, Sharir said, he opposed a "wholesale amnesty" to end the backlog of files.

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

MARKET STATISTICS

Indices:

General Share Index	111.32 +0.39%
Non-Bank Index	137.18 +0.50%
Arrangement	108.99 +0.33%
Insurance	103.94 -1.08%
Commerce, Services	161.76 -0.07%
Real Estate	171.94 +0.79%
Industrial	125.07 +0.68%
Textiles	151.81 UC
Metals	121.18 +0.33%
Electronics	83.56 +1.43%
Chemicals	131.00 +0.41%
Industrial Invest.	113.07 +0.87%
Investment Cos.	108.25 -0.15%
General Bond Index	110.75 -0.08%
Fully-linked	112.74 +0.10%
Partially-linked	108.38 -0.27%
Dollar-linked Bonds	94.38 -0.53%
Short-term 0-2 yrs	108.41 -0.10%
Medium-term 2-5 yrs	108.70 -0.15%
Long-term 5+ yrs	104.05 -0.28%

Turnovers:

Shares - total	NIS 7,528,000
Arrangement	NIS 3,054,000
Non-bank	NIS 4,474,000
Bonds - total	NIS 7,814,000
Index-linked	NIS 5,947,800
Dollar-linked	NIS 1,866,400
Treasury Bills	NIS 2,325,100
Share Movements:	
Advances	148 (77)
of which 5%+	12 (8)
Non-bank	2 (1)
Declines	100 (208)
of which 5%+	1 (1)
"sellers only"	1 (1)
Unchanged	129 (83)
Trading Halt	41 (42)
Bond Market Trends:	
Index-linked	Stable/mixed to 1%
3% fully-linked	Stable/mixed to 1%

4.25% fully-linked	Stable/falls to 2%
80% linked	Falls to 1%
Double-linked	Stable/falls to 0.5%
Dollar-linked:	
Admon	Falls slightly
Rimon	Falls to 2.5%
Gilboa	Falls to 2.5%
For Curr. denominated	Falls to 1%
Treasury Bills	18.40-19.30%
(annual yield)	
Arrangement yields:	
IDB ord.	15.59%
Union 0.1	16.38%
Discount A	16.58%
Mitrani r.	16.56%
Hapoel r.	16.36%
General A	16.24%
Leumi stock	16.18%
Fin. Trade 1	14.56%

SELECTED PRICE QUOTATIONS

Name	Price	Volume	% change
Commercial Banks			
(not part of "arrangement")			
Maritime 1	1002	956	+0.2
General non-em.	24208	4	-0.8
First Int'l	3625	1133	+0.8
PBI	4115	1931	+0.9
Commercial Banks			
(part of "arrangement")			
IDB	76900	550	-
Union 0.1	57250	163	-
Discount	97810	196	-
Mitrani	31950	1130	-0.5
Hapoel r.	52275	1115	-0.5
General A	133900	73	-
Leumi 0.1	33330	2575	+0.5
Fin. Trade	46510	-	-
Mortgage Banks			
Leumi Mort. r.	5044	234	-
Dev. Mort.	1675	889	+0.9
Mishkan r.	2149	190	-0.1
Tefahot r.	13500	70	-
Merviv	5108	186	+2.4
Financial Institutions			
Agrie C	no trading		
Ind. Dev. DD	no trading		
Clal Leasing 0.1	12677	43	+4.1
Insurance			
Avnati 0.1 r.	945	761	-1.2
Hasseli r.	488	3189	-
Phoenix 0.1	710	407	+2.5
Hamaishar	6400	16	+1.9
Menorah 1	2396	361	-1.0
Sehar r.	4016	138	-3.0
Zion Hold. 1	8400	-	-

Name	Price	Volume	% change
Trade & Services			
Meir Ezra	4600	36	-
Supersol 2	5420	409	-
Dalek r.	3080	2798	-
Lighting	18350	28	-9.8
Cold Storage	2100	83	-3.7
Dan Hotels	3400	40	-1.2
Yarden Hotel	3111	84	+2.0
Hilton 1	13948	15	+0.3
Teat 1	1800	120	-
Real Estate, Building and Agriculture			
Acovim	575	6113	+1.8
Elion	485	7597	-
Africa Int. 0.1	34815	100	+1.5
Danlon	3803	-	+0.1
Prop. & Bldg.	2730	1704	+1.9
Service 0.1	4560	528	+0.4
ILDC r.	52400	263	-
Rassco r.	9600	78	-
Mehadrin	8880	147	-1.5
Hedolim	1090	390	-
Industrials			
Dubek b	3430	617	-1.2
Priz 1	1680	978	-
Sunifrost	7090	90	-
Elite	14000	67	+2.6
Adgar	819	1008	+2.6
Argaman r.	12380	76	-1.9
Delta G 1	4180	710	-
Maquetta 1	23125	38	-
Eagle 1	10750	54	-1.8
Polgat	3200	890	+0.3
Schoeller	11200	50	+0.4
Rogovin	3007	995	-1.0
Urden 0.1 r.	9800	38	+1.1
Le Can. Co. 1	1402	659	+3.7
Zion Cables	2538	1820	-
Packer Steel	7470	153	-1.3
Elbit	397000	40	+3.4
Elron	300000	5	-

Name	Price	Volume	% change
Arit	26600	38	-
Clal Electronics	2020	86	-0.7
Spectronix 1	2100	1294	+3.7
T.A.T. 1	3700	195	-
Ackstein 1	1645	87	-
Agan 5	18280	133	-0.4
Alliance	3020	583	+2.4
Dexter	3248	27	-0.2
Hapoel r.	8280	73	+10.0
Hartliff Chem.	535	2528	+2.7
Teva r.	54800	334	-0.5
Deed Sear r.	16701	1852	+0.1
Petrochem	568	7030	-
Neca Chem.	3200	87	-2.9
Frutaron	13300	36	+3.1
Hedolim Paper	19800	65	-0.6
Central Trade	6520	136	+1.6
Kodak p	5355000	0	+2.7
Clal Inds.	1215	4772	-
Investment Companies			
IDB Dev. r.	3538	1028	-
Elion	2900	1680	+2.4
Ark 1	no trading		
Gahelot	1260	190	-0.8
Israel Corp. 1	8150	347	+4.5
Wolfson 1 r	112000	702	+4.0
Hapoel Inv.	5225	2020	-
Leumi Invest.	2170	2020	-
Discount Invest.	15700	15	+2.0
Clal 10	747	3978	-0.1
Landeco 0.1	8000	76	-3.6
Pama 0.1	9400	31	-
Oil Exploration			
Paz Oil Expl.	12500	42	-
J.O.E.L.	1481	979	+1.4
Abbreviations:			
a.o. sellers only	b bearer	r registered	

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FINANCIAL DATA
ISRAEL, EUROPE, U.S.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

SHEKEL INTEREST RATES	
PRIME BORROWING RATE: 1.25% per month	
Unlinked Deposit (Annual Rates)	
Last Updated	Tapas
LEUMI	13.8
HAPOLAM	7.7
DISCOUNT	12.8
MIZRAHI	8.5
FIRST INT'L	23.7
Tapas: demand deposit paying daily interest.	
Pakam: fixed-term deposit available from 7 to 58 days.	

PATAH — fixed-term deposits available from 7 to 59 days.)

PATAH — FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSIT RATES (August 13)			
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Angst and bullyboys

"WHY WAS the Second Temple destroyed?" asks the Talmud, and promptly answers: "Because of baseless hatred."

Since the founding of the State it has been customary to take time out on Tisha Be'Av, which falls today, to examine the balance of forces arrayed against Israel as well as Israel's ability to stand up to them. Most recently the consensus of opinion seems to have been that no conceivable combination of hostile armies could at least in the next few years overcome the Israel Defence Forces. The Third Commonwealth appears safer now, in the military sense, than it has ever been before.

The real threat to Israel's survival, at least in the image fashioned 38 years ago, lies not outside but within.

The controversy over the future of the occupied territories and their Palestinian inhabitants aside, it is a premise generally accepted - except by the Kahane fringe - that the 800,000 or so Arabs who are Israel's citizens must have their rights and cannot, and must not, be disenfranchised. This is hardly surprising, for nothing less should be expected of the democratic and liberal state of the Jews that, in proclaiming its independence, disallowed discrimination on any ground whatever.

Yet whenever a practical issue of Arab rights arises, a band of Jewish super-patriots, most of them right wing, will spring in support of what is, in effect, rank discrimination. To them, Israel's Arab citizens are an enemy that must be put down, and kept there. Jews who stick up for Arab rights are, in their eyes, traitors, if not worse, weaklings.

Area 9 in Galilee is a case in point. Last week a ministerial committee decided to discontinue the no longer necessary use of the area as a military training zone, and to return a few thousand dunams of private Arab land in it to their legal owners. A more sensible and proper decision could hardly have been imagined. Yet two leading Herut parliamentarians - Uzi Landau and Haim Kaufman - blasted it at once as a dire threat to Israel's hold over Galilee. Since the committee consisted of Alignment ministers, they also charged that it represented electoral bribery of the Arabs.

At the time it was unclear whether the two Herut politicians had spoken as they did in the name of their party as a whole. Now there is no doubt they spoke for the overwhelming majority not only of Herut but of the entire Likud.

The Likud's consensus in the matter emerged at a meeting of its Knesset faction on Tuesday that surpassed even the recent Herut convention for hateful vituperation, except that the targets this time were party outsiders: the Arabs - and the Alignment. MK Landau repeated his farcical suggestion that the few tracts of land to be returned to Arabs in Area 9 would serve as the foundation of a Palestinian mini-state in Galilee. His party colleague Yehoshua Matza proposed that the hand-over would inflame Arab nationalism in Galilee and be the beginning of Israel's downfall as a nation.

Not to be outdone, Beany Shalit, a Liberal deputy, conjured an obscene vision of Ezer Weizman, leading member of the committee of four, as "the best leader that Arabs have had since Haj Amin al-Husseini."

The meeting chose a delegation of Likud MKs that would try to talk the defence minister out of going through with the plan for Area 9. But the true purpose of the meeting had already been served: to launch a propaganda campaign that would portray the Alignment as "Arab lovers" and Israel's Arab citizens as the enemy within. The enemy which, as Ariel Sharon has claimed elsewhere, was even responsible for the spate of recent road accidents throughout the country.

Likud politicians evidently believe they have hit political pay-dirt with Area 9. In fact their hate-filled demagoguery may be the biggest threat Israel is now facing.

Water extravaganza

WITH A FLOURISH of trumpets, the Water Commissioner and the Mekorot water company have announced that the water allocations of 17 cities are to be reduced by 20 per cent. The announcement has been accompanied by stern admonitions that the cities concerned failed to respond to appeals to cut water consumption voluntarily.

Both the cuts and the admonitions are really nothing but public relations exercises. The truth is that the cities are almost unimportant in the water extravaganza: 75 per cent of the water used in Israel goes to agriculture. It is the farmers' fields that have to be deprived if Israel is to get out of its present water mess, caused by reckless over-consumption during the last 15 years. We have spent water as we did money under the Aridor regime.

The ration for the orange groves has, it is true, been reduced by 10 per cent, and other farmers will have to put up with cuts of from five to 20 per cent. But it is doubtful whether these economies will be sufficient to reduce the overdraft. Wells in the coastal area are already threatened with salinity.

The nation has been induced to blame last winter's severe drought for the present water shortage. This is another public relations exercise, comparable to a man blaming an "Act of God" for his own follies. Droughts are inevitable in the region of which Israel forms a part, and should be planned for. Even magnificently rains for two or three years will not solve the water problem, which has been caused by an irresponsible policy of exploiting available resources to their utmost, with never a thought of tomorrow.

How could Israel have behaved in such a fashion? The truth is that the two commissions responsible for water control are dominated by the agricultural lobby. These bodies are the Water Commission and the Water Committee of the Knesset. Having them make decisions about water is rather like putting the fox in charge of the henhouse. Nevertheless, it must be stressed that the farmers of their own volition are using less than their quotas, according to the water commissioner.

What is vitally and urgently needed is the establishment of some kind of impartial national body, armed with the necessary powers, to draw up a comprehensive plan for the future as well as the present, so as to rationalize the water budget in terms of income and expenditure, and not in terms of interest groups.

Analysts fear what the 1990s will bring U.S. faces cheap oil quandary

Benjamin Shwadran

NO MEMBER of the administration publicly advocated the oil-import tax.

The first reaction of President Reagan and the other members of the administration to the lowered oil prices was that they were the product of the forces of the free market and were not the result of manipulation, hence the decision to do nothing about them.

However, if there were manipulations, measures would have to be taken to protect the domestic oil industry as a matter of national security. The basic need of the domestic oil industry is stability which would guarantee price, operation and growth.

The lower oil prices, George Shultz said, 'help a lot of people including us.'

The manipulated drop of the oil price was primarily caused by Saudi Arabia's decision to increase production and flood the markets. After competing producers were eliminated, the Persian Gulf major producers would control the supply and would raise prices to levels much higher than ever before. To prevent such an eventual Saudi Arabia would have to be persuaded, together with its other Persian Gulf big producers, to curtail their oil production and stabilize the market.

The campaign was launched in March. On the 31st, Energy Secretary Herrington called on Saudi Arabia and other Opec members to consider the political consequences of falling oil prices. He declared: "It has got to be apparent to the Saudis and to the rest of Opec what damage is being done to our industries... The Saudis have a lot of friends in the world, and forcing prices down by excess production has ramifications among their allies. I am sure they are conscious of this."

The next day, Vice President George Bush, a former Texas congressman and the head of an oil company in Odessa, Texas, from 1948 to 1966, announced that he was making a 10-day trip to the Middle East covering Saudi Arabia and other countries. His goal, he said, was to "tell Saudi Arabia that the protection of American security interests requires action to stabilize the falling price of oil." He warned against letting oil prices experience "a continued free fall like a parachute jumping out without a parachute." He apparently went too far and soon retreated and declared that he sought stability. Some members of the administration were disturbed by Bush's remarks and they scrambled to reassure the Saudis and the other producers that there had been

no change in the stated policy. Bush's meeting with King Fahd in Doha forced the vice president to retreat further and declare that he supported "the lowest possible prices consistent with the fact that we need a strong domestic oil industry for our national security." He had not tried to exert pressure for high prices. "I honestly can't set a price, I don't know where we find this balance." He was reported to have told the king that the U.S. did not blame Saudi Arabia for the collapse of the oil prices.

Herrington pursued the line of the danger of low prices. In his letter to the *New York Times* he stated that "the dangers of manipulating oil prices in the 1980s can be as serious as it was in the 70s. It can severely weaken competing producers of other nations, allow Opec to corner the market again and, in the long term, drive oil prices back up."

Bush's mission to the Middle East must have had the backing of President Reagan who apparently retreated from his position of support of the free market. For on April 9, the president said at a press conference in Washington that "the market in oil is not completely free" since in some cases governments rather than companies set production levels and prices. He added that maybe someone would think of driving it down to get rid of a lot of competition. Foreign producers might "do what comes naturally to monopolists" and drive prices up again. He warned that the U.S. must be on the alert "to see that no one starts playing tricks for some kind of illicit future gains." He was obviously, and rightly so, pointing to Saudi Arabia. Yet, when asked what the U.S. might do if it determined that prices were being manipulated for such sinister ends, the president replied, "then we would have to see what our options were."

His options are not many. For, the U.S., after identifying the manipulators and clearly discerning his designs, cannot do very much. The Bush mission was a failure. Three days later, the president stressed that the benefits of cheaper oil for the U.S. economy far outweigh the drawbacks. Some will have "to make a difficult adjustment to these new lower prices, but overall less expensive oil represents a tremendous boon for the economy."

The oil companies and the oil states have, thus far, not succeeded in halting the deterioration of their position. Neither an oil-import tax, nor Saudi Arabia's production reduction could be achieved. Politically, the president and the Republican party found themselves in a deep quandary. The great drop in oil prices would make the Republican party very popular with the oil consuming public. On the other hand, the oil states and the oil companies would be estranged from the party. The Reagan administration was, therefore, practically paralysed into inaction.

AS THE oil prices began to come down suddenly and rapidly and the inevitable impact was sharply felt in the U.S., many academic and research institutions, oil company specialists and other analysts began to issue reports predicting what the drastic oil price cuts would do to the energy situation in the 1990s. Practically all predicted doom.

The high Opec prices induced the consumers to change radically the pattern of energy consumption. These were basic life-style changes of conservation in home heating and air-conditioning, in commercial establishments and through new technologies restructuring of the industrial plants. In the same spirit governments and research institutions were feverishly and energetically working for the development of alternatives to oil. An intensive effort was made to increase oil production from wells that were not considered profitable prior to the 1973 oil crisis. The service sector of

the industry was greatly expanded. The net result was a great drop in the consumption of oil on the one hand and an increase in oil production on the other hand. The overall pattern of energy consumption instead of increasing was either stationary or even decreasing.

On the other hand the non-Opec major producers such as the North Sea and Alaska will shortly be exhausted. U.S. production will continue to decline rapidly. The only major source for oil will be the Middle East. The Western world will then be at the mercy of the Persian Gulf major producers. The terms they will impose would be much harsher and the prices much higher than they have ever been before. The crucial time was set in the 1990s. The euphoria and the reckless consumption of the oil at low prices might continue during the 1980s, but come the 1990s and the great energy crisis will come and overwhelm the consuming world. It will then be at the mercy of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Iran and Iraq (the last two would no longer be at war), not only economically and financially, but worse - politically.

Most of these gloomy reports and their predictions were based on assumptions and statistical projections for which the authors had no basis for assuming and projecting. For the oil development story was unique and, therefore, the authors had no knowledge nor experience on which to draw conclusions and make projections. The reports of doom of the middle '70s similarly drawn, were all proven wrong, for their assumptions were not based on solid facts.

The present plethora of books, reports and articles are based on the following major assumptions. In spite of some 13 years of suffering at the hands of Opec and the resultant saner and more rational use of energy, as soon as the price came down all the past experience will be discarded overnight and the consumers will revert to the pre-1970 oil-waste orgy. All the new technological advances in the usage of energy will be dismantled and the old systems will be restored.

It was also assumed that all the achievements in the research for alternatives will be abandoned for the old usage of oil. It was also assumed, as in the reports of the middle Seventies, that the yearly energy increase will jump to 5 per cent to 7 per cent and even higher. At the same time the production level in the U.S. will constantly and rapidly decline. In the middle '90s the U.S. will have to import over 80 per cent of its consumption needs.

These assumptions, and many others, have no bases. There is no evidence that all conservation advances would be abandoned, nor would all the other achievements.

The doom reports about the 1990s are sweet music to the ears of the major oil companies, to the U.S. oil states, and they hope that these reports will force the U.S. government to take measures to protect the national security interests of the domestic oil industry. The Persian Gulf producers avidly adopted the conclusions of the doom reports. By the 1990s they will dictate to the Western world oil prices and political conditions for the supply of the oil.

The answer to the Persian Gulf producers was given by Belkacem Nabi, Algeria's minister of Energy and Petrochemical Industries, in an interview with the *Kuwait daily al-Wakeel* on April 22, 1986. "I believe we are making an obvious mistake in believing that the future of this industry lies with the Gulf states alone. The Western countries will not wait from now until 1990, for example, to allow a group of Arab countries to dominate their destiny."

Professor Shwadran teaches modern Middle East history at the Hebrew University and Tel Aviv University.

THE DROP of oil prices on December 10, 1985 from about \$28 a barrel to \$13 a barrel - before the recent probably transient upsurge, was more than welcome by the great number of the oil consuming countries throughout the world. They all suffered - because of the very high oil prices - serious, if not strangulating - to use Kissinger's word - economic and financial ailments of inflation, increased heavy indebtedness, very limited or no economic growth, ever greater deficits in the balance of payments and unemployment.

The drop of more than half in the price of oil was practically a revolution - after 13 years of suffering - in the economic and financial life of these countries. However, the sharp drop in the oil price brought severe hardships to the oil producing countries: reduced revenues, curtailment of economic development programmes, drastic decreases in the financial reserves, huge increases in unemployment and sharp drops in the standard of living. The big Persian Gulf producers - Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates - could manage their economic life, though reluctantly, with the reduced oil revenue. The smaller Opec producers were the most grievously affected, especially Nigeria, Venezuela and Indonesia.

The non-Opec oil exporters were differently affected. The Soviet Union, for which the oil was the major source of desperately needed foreign currency, was greatly upset by the huge drop in the foreign currency income. Britain reconciled itself to the reduction of the oil income, and was consoled by the realization that the reduced oil prices would benefit the economy. Norway was at first flustered with the possibility of cooperating with Opec in order to maintain the high prices, but never took the plunge. Egypt was badly affected by the drop in the oil prices as its economy was under great strain. Mexico was the most negatively affected, for its external debt reached over \$90 billion and the oil revenue was the major source to finance the economy and service the debt.

The U.S. was uniquely affected. Being the greatest oil consumer, per capita as well as total, the public stood to save about \$75 billion a year from the lowered oil prices. All the economic ills which came upon the country because of the high oil prices imposed by Opec would be removed. There would be greater resources for economic growth, increase in employment, reduction in the deficit in the balance of payment and perhaps no inflation. Above all the price of oil would be determined not by manipulations but by what is an arch credo of American capitalism: economic forces of the free market.

Although the U.S., especially the Republican party, professed that it was always guided by the principle of free competition and that economic forces determined market prices, in reality, since the organization of the Standard Oil Company in 1870 by

John D. Rockefeller, until the current crisis, oil prices were never determined by a free market. They were manipulated both domestically and internationally by cartel tactics and the actors were the same in both areas. Should the free market determine prices the entire oil industry structure would have to be radically changed.

The question was what could be done to prevent the so-called disaster facing the oil states and the oil companies.

A PROPOSAL which the *New York Times* and other publications enthusiastically supported as well as the oil states and the oil companies was for the government to impose an import tax on oil equivalent to the difference between the price of the current price - the spot market - and the \$28 a barrel to be established as the permanent price. The advantages of such a measure would redound to the oil states and the oil companies. The consumers will gain nothing and pay the high prices as before. The advocates stressed that the increased revenue could reduce, if not wipe out the government deficit. This would help the taxpayer, and it would prevent consumers from increasing consumption and maintain the conservation regime. It will also maintain the intensive search for oil and thus augment reserves. It will also preserve and even strengthen the service branch of the industry.

The Reagan administration was divided as to what measures should be taken on the lowered oil prices. Some of the economic advisers advocated allowing the price to be determined by the free market, without tampering. Very few members backed the import tax measure. The most outspoken opponent of the tax was Secretary of State George Shultz. On February 10, 1986 he reiterated his opposition to the measure and the opposition of the administration to any attempt to prop up oil prices. The lower oil prices, he said, "help a lot of people including us."

Reacting to the *New York Times* advocacy of the oil-import tax, Energy Secretary John S. Herrington in a letter to the editor on April 6, stated the administration's position on the issue: "If the energy story of the last five years tells us anything, it is that market-oriented energy policies are the answer to our nation's energy security needs. This administration has been steadfastly wedded to this cause." He went on to list the advantages of the new situation. "There is no question that the U.S. will reap enormous benefits from lower oil prices. They'll slash inflation more, stimulate economic growth, cut the deficit and help American exports. Consumers are rightfully enjoying lower prices at the pumps." On the other hand the oil-import tax "would send all energy prices upward. The resulting inflation would hold down economic growth, damage our allies and undercut our ability to sell exports in foreign markets."

Catching traffic offenders

Eric Gutwillig

"LET US first take time off to find the real answers," concluded *The Jerusalem Post's* leading article on August 4, dealing with the situation on the roads. There is undoubtedly a need for scientific research into the subject of road accidents. All the same, every driver - indeed, every citizen - knows instinctively that the real cause is the uncivilized and criminal behaviour of some of the Israeli drivers.

Writing in *The Post* the following day under the heading "The Human Element," Shalom Cohen stated, "Certainly... punishment, the grounding of offending drivers, is probably the only antibiotic for the road disease."

The point is that, in order to be punished, the offending driver has first to be caught. And here lies the weakness of our present set-up. The police patrol cars, which are few and far between, are mostly occupied chasing speed-limit offenders, and other laws can be broken with impunity. It follows, therefore, that a way must be found to increase the likelihood of apprehension. This, and only this, will make the offending driver sit up and take notice.

The range of a patrol-car is limited. While its crew is dealing with one offender, others are streaming

by, comfortable in the knowledge that there is likely to be a long interval before another patrol-car appears. Moreover, drivers have a habit of warning each other when police are in the vicinity, so that drivers are on their best behaviour just as long as it takes to pass the blue flashing light - and back they go to their nefarious ways. No, detection must be made far more probable, so that every driver will think twice before breaking the law.

IF DETECTION by another car is slow and cumbersome, a much more efficient method is from the air. Drivers who enter the Tel Aviv area in the early morning hours are guided to the less crowded routes by a low-flying airplane which hovers overhead. A single plane manages to cover the entire Dan region, reporting on accidents, on traffic lights out of order, on locations which require the presence of police, etc.

Why not use a small airplane or helicopter to detect traffic offenders? What better way could there be of spotting cars which cross white lines, ignore "Halt" signs, overtake

dangerously? The driver would not always be aware of the plane hovering overhead, so the fear of detection would be constant.

As a first step, legislation would have to be enacted requiring all motor vehicles to have their registration numbers marked plainly on their roofs in standard-size figures and weather-resistant, fluorescent colours.

The difficulties are not far to seek. What about convertibles? What about lorries? What about motor-cycles? Solutions suggest themselves to each of the problems. Lorries would be required to cover the goods they carry with a tarpaulin bearing the registration number. Convertibles might have to have their number on the bonnet. Motor-cycles would probably have to be exempt from the regulations.

One can think of various other arguments against the proposal - principally, where the money is to come from. The answer is that where the saving of human lives is concerned, other considerations are of secondary importance.

If traditional methods have failed, then unorthodox ones must be tried. What is there to be lost?

The writer is a free-lance journalist.

READERS' LETTERS

ABANDONING HANDICAPPED INFANTS

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - All the parents of her patients hold Dr. Shirley Meyer, medical director of Alyn, in the highest esteem, and her young patients love her. It was therefore with sadness and indignation that I read her comments of August 5 regarding the "abandonment" at birth in hospitals of handicapped babies.

Dr. Meyer is perhaps the most qualified judge to know the anguish and heartache such a child produces in the mother, and the decision to leave a newborn infant in the care of somebody like her is surely in the best interest of the child. The parents who take their baby home to care for it with love, spend all their time, money and energy on it and become mentally, physically and emotionally drained in their effort to supply a "normal home" atmos-

phere for it, especially if there are already other children in the family. Statistically, it is proven that a home with a disabled child ranks high on the divorce lists, and siblings suffer almost as much as the parents.

It is easy to condemn the mother for "abandoning" the infant. Would it not be better to encourage her with official help to provide alternative arrangements, thus giving a choice to the devastated parents. These babies grow and become heavier and harder to manage. What the parents need are not the occasional few days' holiday, but a permanent voluntary or paid government association to which they could turn in their dire need, without the stigma of being social cases.

A GRANDMOTHER (Name and address supplied.) Jerusalem.

PRAISE FOR EGGED

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - Since my arrival in Israel in April, I, as a tourist, have used the marvellous bus service provided by Egged. I have toured the country, using public transportation exclusively.

I wish to commend Egged for its prompt service, the cleanliness of its equipment and especially the courteous and professional manner of its drivers who, though busy collecting money, giving out those little pieces of paper and watching traffic, always remember to call out a destination that was requested.


JERROLD SCHWARTZ
Netanya (Hollywood, Florida).

PENFRIENDS
JULIE WEBSTER (18), of 8 Woodfield Avenue, Oldbury, Warrley, W. Mids., B69 4TB, England, likes music and films and would like to correspond with a young girl of her age.

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